

# SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 26th Year  
Single Copy \$1.25

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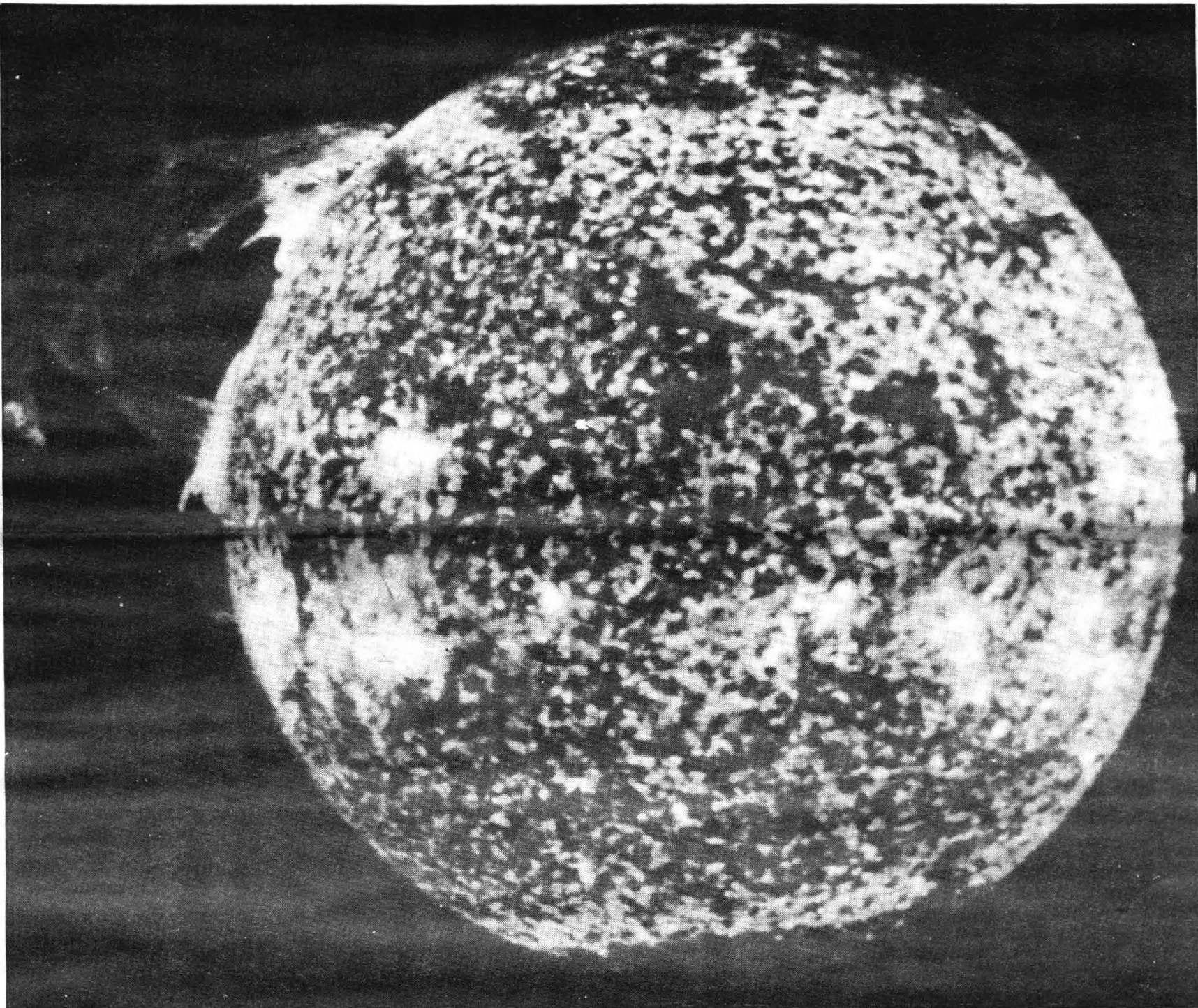
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Vol. 26 No. 10 • 310th Consecutive Monthly Issue • Baraboo, Wisconsin • October 1995

## Sunspot Hints Start of New Solar Cycle

This photo of the Sun, taken on December 13, 1973 during the third and final Skylab mission, shows one of the most spectacular solar flares ever recorded, spanning more than 588,000 kilometers (365,000 miles) across the solar surface. The flare gives the distinct impression of a twisted sheet of gas in the process of unwinding itself. In this photo, the solar poles are distinguished by a relative absence of supergranulation network, and a much darker tone than the central portions of the disk. Several active regions are seen on the eastern side of the disk. The photo was taken in the light of ionized helium by the extreme ultraviolet spectroheliograph instrument of the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory.

- NASA photo



Astronomers at the California Institute of Technology say they have identified the first new sunspot in the next sunspot cycle.

Scientists at Caltech's Big Bear Solar Observatory in Big Bear City, California, photographed the spot on August 12.

"This makes us happy," said Hal Zirin, professor of astrophysics at Caltech and director of the Big Bear facility. "The sun is a lot more interesting to study when things are going on."

Early in the 11-year sunspot cycle, sunspots appear rarely and at relatively high solar latitudes around 30 to 35 degrees, then increase in frequency and appear at lower latitudes until they reach sunspot maximum, Caltech said. After this peak in activity, the number of sunspots slowly declines, and they appear ever closer to the sun's equator until they reach a relatively quiet phase called sunspot minimum.

The sun has been in a quiet period through much of 1994 and this year, with a few spots showing up near the equator. The new sunspot found on August 12

appeared at a solar location of 21 degrees, and its magnetic polarity is opposite to that seen over the last decade, a key to identifying it as "the manifestation" of the start of a new cycle, Caltech said.

Scientists at Caltech said they expected an early beginning to Cycle 23, but not this early. "Sunspots in the new cycle should rapidly become more common and reach a high level of activity in 1998 or 1999," Caltech said.

- ARRL Bulletin ARLX046, 8/23/95

The photo above is of the solar disk and a large solar flare. A photo of a sunspot is on page 8 of this issue.

**FCC Starts Ham License  
Renewal Reminder Program;  
Commissioner Quello  
Opposes FCC Cutbacks**

See page 7

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

✕ Swapfests and Other Social Events ✕ Club Meetings  
✕ Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

EDITED BY KENNETH A. EBNETER, K9EN, 822 WAUONA TRAIL, PORTAGE, WI 53901

## Swapfests and Other Social Events

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1995. Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs Swapfest, Waukesha County Expo Center. Contact: KMRA Swapfest, PO Box 411, Waukesha, WI 53187-0411.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1995. 11th annual Friendlyfest 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Waukesha County Expo Center, Waukesha, WI. Contact Milwaukee Repeater Club, Inc., PO Box 2123, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1995. Fox Cities Hamfest, Starlite Club, Hwy 55 North of Kaukauna. Contact: Dan Vanevenhoven, N9LVS, 2410 E Newberry Ct., Appleton, WI 54915. (414) 739-5101.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 1996. 24th Annual Midwinter Swapfest, Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. Contact: WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1996. Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc., American Legion Post 53, 634 Water St., Eau Claire, WI. Contact: Steve Hart, KA9OMC, E616 810th Ave., Knapp, WI 54749. (715) 665-2374.

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 1996. SEWFARS Swapfest, Waukesha County Expo Center, Waukesha, WI. Contact: SEWFARS PO Box 102, Delafield, WI 53018. (414) 789-1034.

See also the back page and flyer ads for additional information on many of these events.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebnetter,

K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

## Club Meetings



Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the September 1995 meetings column for the latest complete listing. The following are additions or changes since that listing.

There have been no changes received since the full listing in September BSSS.

### DEFINITIONS

DATA COMPRESSION- What happens when your 3 year old nephew finds your disks.

HARD DISK CRASH- Your computer desk is overloaded.

Putting on Heirs. Last will and testament. heir filter.

Tongue-trying. They came to a parting of the waves.

Zoo Illogical. Colossal boar.

Face Lifts. Dimples playing hide-and seek with her smiles.

## The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations  
and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

|                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| October 7, 1995   | Baraboo, WI               |
| October 7, 1995   | Racine, WI                |
| October 7, 1995   | River Falls, WI           |
| October 7, 1995   | Oak Creek, WI (SWAT/MRAC) |
| October 14, 1995  | Madison, WI               |
| October 14, 1995  | Redgranite, WI            |
| October 18, 1995  | West Allis, WI (MRAC)     |
| October 21, 1995  | Loves Park, IL            |
| October 21, 1995  | Medford, WI               |
| October 22, 1995  | Milwaukee, WI (BADGER)    |
| October 28, 1995  | Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)      |
| October 28, 1995  | Tomahawk, WI              |
| November 4, 1995  | Racine, WI                |
| November 4, 1995  | Oak Creek, WI (SWAT/MRAC) |
| November 4, 1995  | Menomonie, WI             |
| November 11, 1995 | Marshfield, WI            |
| November 11, 1995 | Madison, WI               |
| November 11, 1995 | Redgranite, WI            |
| November 15, 1995 | West Allis, WI (MRAC)     |
| November 18, 1995 | Milwaukee, WI (BADGER)    |
| November 18, 1995 | Dubuque, IA               |
| November 18, 1995 | Loves Park, IL            |
| November 25, 1995 | Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)      |
| December 2, 1995  | Oak Creek, WI (SWAT/MRAC) |
| December 2, 1995  | Racine, WI                |
| December 2, 1995  | River Falls, WI           |
| December 2, 1995  | Stevens Point, WI         |
| December 9, 1995  | Madison, WI               |
| December 9, 1995  | Redgranite, WI            |
| December 20, 1995 | West Allis, WI (MRAC)     |
| December 16, 1995 | Milwaukee, WI (BADGER)    |
| December 16, 1995 | Loves Park, IL            |
| January 29, 1996  | Milwaukee, WI (BADGER)    |
| February 17, 1996 | Milwaukee, WI (BADGER)    |
| March 16, 1996    | Milwaukee, WI (BADGER)    |
| April 20, 1996    | Milwaukee, WI (BADGER)    |
| May, 4, 1996      | Milwaukee, WI (BADGER)    |
|                   | Ozaukee Swapfest          |

|                                      |                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Monthly, 1st Sat.                    | Racine, WI                |
| (except January, July & August)      |                           |
| Monthly, 1st Sat.                    | Oak Creek, WI (SWAT/MRAC) |
| (except May, June, July & August)    |                           |
| Monthly, 2nd Sat.                    | Madison, WI               |
| Monthly, 2nd Sat.                    | Redgranite, WI            |
| Monthly, 3rd Wed.                    | West Allis, WI (MRAC)     |
| Monthly, 3rd Sat.                    | Loves Park, IL            |
| Monthly, Last Sat.                   | Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)      |
| (except December)                    |                           |
| Monthly, Last Sat.                   | Tomahawk, WI              |
| (January thru October only)          |                           |
| Quarterly                            | Marshfield, WI            |
| (Second Saturday every third month.) |                           |

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

### GENERAL RULES

#### FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Some examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

## Badger State Smoke Signals

### Amateur Radio Education and Information

CHAIRMAN: Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560.

EDITOR: Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, 412 1/2 Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913. Telephone (608) 356-4031.

TREASURER: Jim Decker, WB9UQT, P.O. Box 337, Baraboo, WI 53913-0337.

CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR: Richard R. Regent, K9GDF, 5003 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53221.

### Subscriptions

|         |                           |         |
|---------|---------------------------|---------|
| 1 year  | (12 issues)               | \$12.00 |
| 2 years | (24 issues - save \$2.00) | \$22.00 |
| 3 years | (36 issues - save \$4.00) | \$32.00 |

Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

### When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1.

The only exception is for participating clubs. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that

month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

### Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, feature articles, display ads, and exchange papers should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter. Swapfest ads should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Jim Decker.

### Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. THIS CREDIT IS MANDATORY, AND NO MATERIAL MAY BE PRINTED OR POSTED UNLESS IT IS GIVEN. This newspaper is produced by volunteer Radio Amateurs, and is non-profit. This newspaper is mailed from Portage, WI 53901. *Badger State Smoke Signals* is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-profit organization.

### Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL. Send a 32c/ SASE if you request one from the ARRL. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$5.90 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE or CSCE to the VEC. You must also have two good copies of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 610 and most VEC want a copy for their records. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB (MRAC/VEC)  
OAK CREEK, WI (SWAT -MRAC/VEC)

FIRST SATURDAY DATES (No exams June, July or August. May exam on 2nd sat at 1:00 p.m.): 3:30 p.m. at 6560 S. 27th St., Oak Creek, WI. (2 -blocks south of College.) (MRAC fee \$5.00)

THIRD WEDNESDAY DATES: At 6:30 p.m. Manor at Park, 3023 S 84th St., West Allis, WI.

LAST SATURDAY DATES (except December): 9:00 a.m. at 7500 W. State St., Wauwatosa S&L, lower level, Wauwatosa, WI.

For Additional Information Contact; Jack Krause, (414) 774-6999 or call (414) 466-HAMS (Answering Machine) or write MRAC, 1737 N. 116th St., Wauwatosa, WI 53226.

Bring along your ORIGINAL license, CSCE and two (2) good quality photocopies, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$5.00 for the exam fee. WALK- INS are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: print the grade of license you are applying for, and your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, c/o Jack Krause, W9JK, or Les Peterson, W9YCV at the addresses shown above.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE  
Amateur exams: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Commercial exams: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Unless otherwise noted at WMVS-TV studios, MATC Downtown campus in the C building starting at 9:00 a.m. for commercial exams and Amateur exams at 1:00 p.m. the same day. The address is 1036 N. 8th Street, Milwaukee. Enter at the North West entrance of C Building. Walkins are welcome. To register in advance, send a post card with your name, test or tests you wish to take, date you wish to take., your call sign, address and telephone number to Badger Examiners, Gary J. Sharbuno, WI9M, 5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53223. Telephone (414) 355-0237.

Also available FCC General Radio Telephone Commercial exams. Fees are \$5.90 for the Amateur Radio exams and \$35.00 for the commercial exams.

MADISON, WI

VE exams are held in Madison every second Saturday morning (September through May) of the month at 8 a.m. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. To get there take the Beltline (Hwy 12 & 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile till South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Rd. and enter at gate.

You should bring a picture ID, your original licence and a copy of your licence. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$5.90, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631.

Mark Jenks, N29B

RIVER FALLS, WI

Held in the church basement at the United Methodist Church, 127 South 2nd St., River Falls, WI. Contact: Chuck Kelly, KA9YRV, 234 W Cascade Ave., River Falls, WI 54022.

REDGRANITE, WI (W5YI VEC)

Test sessions are held in Redgranite on the second Saturday of each month, at the Civic Center, 202 Pine River rd., just off Highway 21. Testing begins at 9:00 a.m. Breakfast meeting at 8:00 a.m. at the Cirve on Highway 21 prior to testing session. All Amateurs are welcome at the breakfast. Contact Terry

Lynn Witt, AA9BA, 9145 Ivy Lane, Berlin, WI 54923.

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Monthly exams are given 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walkins are permitted.

Inquiries and registrations should be directed to William Firchow, Jr., NW9P, 1912 27th Street, Kenosha, WI 53140, telephone (414) 658-8390.

TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct.  
Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No preregistration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testings starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

STEVENS POINT, WI

Contact: Joe Larson, N9JW. (715) 344-1182.

APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC

MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST)

KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)

Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All test session in Appleton are held at James Madison Jr. High, 2020 S. Carpenter Street. Candidates check in between 8 and 9 a.m. with testing starting at 9 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. Contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (414) 730-0967.

MENOMONIE, WI

The Menomonie VEC will be sponsoring exams from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the UW Stout Communication Center, 820 South Broadway, Menomonie, WI. Use the north entrance. Walk-ins only. Contact Jim Ley, NX9F. Work: (715) 232-1397, Home: (715) 235-3998.

MARSHFIELD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. Held at St. Joseph Hospital, 611 St. Joseph Ave., in the 1 West classroom located adjacent to the Westwood Cafeteria on the main floor of the hospital. Use the main entrance or any other entrance and follow the signs to the cafeteria. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. with testing starting at 9:00 a.m. Talk in on the 147.18 Marshfield repeater. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Walter Friant, WBOKIN, 2310 Wallonie Drive, Marshfield, WI 54449 (715) 387-3870.

GREEN BAY, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Contact N9NOF, Keith Summers, 918 Bluebird St., De Pere, WI 54115. (414) 336-6087, after 4:00 p.m.

FOND DU LAC, WI

Sponsored by the Fond du Lac Amateur Radio Club. From 9:00 a.m. to Noon at the Community United Methodist Church located at 701 Minnesota Ave., in North Fond du Lac, WI. All level tests, walkins welcome. Contact: Doug Schultz, N9EZF, (414) 992-3088.

BARABOO, WISCONSIN

Location: Public Library, Baraboo, WI. Contact: Steve Schwoegler, WB9RNL, (608) 254-2895.

MEDFORD, WISCONSIN

Sponsored by the Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club (ARRL/VEC affiliated). Saturday, October 21st. Testing for all classes, Novice through Extra. Registration starts at 8:30 AM, testing starts at 9 AM. Location: the conference room in the lower level of the Sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Take Ogden St. west off of Hwy. 13 to the courthouse. Park in the lots on the east or south sides of the courthouse or on the street. PLEASE use the entrance on the south side of the courthouse and watch for the signs. Talk-in on the 147.15(+600 kHz) repeater. Walk-ins welcome, however, if you know you'll be attending, it would be appreciated if you call ahead. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451, phone (715) 748-4054.

CEDARBURG, WI - ORC HAMFEST

EAU CLAIRE, WI - ECARC HAMFEST

GREEN BAY, WI - ARES HAMFEST

KAUKAUNA, WI - SWAPFEST

MANITOWOC, WI, LAKESHORE HAMFEST

MARSHFIELD, WI - HAMFEST

OAK CREEK, WI - SMARC HAMFEST RACINE, WI -

BIG BOY TOY SHOW

RHINELANDER, WI - NWARC SWAPFEST

ROCKFORD, IL - RARC HAMFEST

ROTHSCHILD, WI - WVRA HAMFEST

SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI - SMARC HAMFEST

STEVENS POINT, WI - CWRA SWAPFEST

WAUKESHA, WI - KMRA SWAPFEST

WAUKESHA, WI - MIDWINTER SWAPFEST

DUBUQUE, IA - HAMFEST

See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.

GREAT RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

DUBUQUE, IOWA - ARRL/VEC

The Great River Amateur Radio Club VEs are now field stocked, which means retests can be given immediately.

Exams are held at 9:00 am at the Central Fire Station, 9th and Central in Dubuque. Use the basement entrance on 9th street. For more info, contact: Carl Clark, NOKAX, 145 Delicia Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001. Or call Carl at 319-557-9149. Talk-ins are on the 147.84/24, 147.63/03 and 146.295/895 repeaters.

LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Contact: Dennis G. Eksten, W9SS, (815) 877-6768.

MINNESOTA TEST INFORMATION

From The Ground Wave, Saint Paul Radio Club.

Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC)

Contact: Jay Bellows, KOQBE (612) 222-7253

Test Site: St. Luke School

1065 Summit Ave.

St Paul, MN

(Parking & entrance in back)

TESTING: First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m.

Anoka Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

Contact: Tom Cunningham, N10H (612) 537-2649

Test Site: Blaine City Hall, Blaine MN

TESTING: Second Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC)

Contact: Jerry Jensen, WT0W (612) 888-6187

Test Site: Creekside Community Center

98th & Penn Avenue S

Bloomington, MN

TESTING: Second Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Valley Amateur Radio Club (VARC)

Contact: Paul Ramey, WG0G (612) 432-1640 or

Bill Martin, KA0CIR (612) 532-0438

Test Site: Hayes Community Center

14601 Hayes Road

Apple Valley, MN

TESTING: Second Thursday of the month 6:30 p.m.

W5YI

Contact: Dave Ranney, NOAXL (612) 936-9850

Test Site: Eden Prairie Library

479 Eden Prairie Drive

Eden Prairie, MN

TESTING: Third Tuesday of the month 6:30 p.m.

SE Metro Area Radio Club (SEMARC)

Contact: Dave Harrell, NOIPN (612) 459-8678

Test Site: Cottage Grove fire Station

8641 80th ST., S

Cottage Grove, MN

TESTING: Third Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

The above information has been furnished by the various VEs. However, it is suggested that you confirm time and date BEFORE you make the trip to the test site. Occasionally, test my be canceled or dates and locations changed. A Phone call could save you some grief and a wasted trip.

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules. Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Be sure to include contact address and any other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to K9EN at the address shown on page 2.

# Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Jim Merrell, W9AYK, Secretary • W283 Hillendale Drive • Oconomowoc, WI 53066

## Section Manager's Notes



Richard R. Regent, K9GDF  
5003 South 26th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53221

Eleventh annual Friendlyfest is November 4 starting at 8:00 A.M. at Waukesha County Expo Center sponsored by Milwaukee Repeater Club.

November 5 is Fox Cities ARC Hamfest at Starlite Club on Highway 55, north of Kaukauna.

Exams: November 4 Racine, Oak Creek, Onalaska, Menomonie; November 5 Kaukauna; November 11 Marshfield, Madison, Redgranite, West Allis; November 25 Wauwatosa, Oak Creek. New OO is WB9RBT.

ARES ECs are needed for the counties of Bayfield, Crawford, Door, Douglas, Florence, Grant, Green, Jackson, Kewaunee, LaFayette, Langlade, Marquette, Menomonee, Oconto, Pepin, Richland, Rock, Rusk, Sheboygan and Vernon. Applications for EC are available from SEC WB9-SMM or from me.

Activity of the month: Club gavel competition for Sweepstakes, CW November 4 and 5, phone

## Wisconsin Nets

| Net                                  | WNA | Freq.     | UTC  | CDT  | Mgr.   |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----------|------|------|--------|
| BWN                                  | Yes | 3985      | 1100 | 0600 | W9AYK  |
| BEN                                  | Yes | 3985      | 1700 | 1200 | KE9VU  |
| WSBN                                 | Yes | 3985      | 2230 | 1730 | K9UTQ  |
| WNN                                  | Yes | 3723      | 2300 | 1800 | KA9FVX |
| WSSN                                 | Yes | 3645      | 2330 | 1830 | N9BDL  |
| WIN/E                                | Yes | 3662      | 0000 | 1900 | WB9ICH |
| WIN/L                                | Yes | 3662      | 0300 | 2200 | W9NGP  |
| NWTN                                 | Yes | 34/94     | 2330 | 1830 | NS9Q   |
| (Rhinelander area)                   |     |           |      |      |        |
| RCRA                                 | No  | 01/61     | 2330 | 1830 | KA9OMC |
| (Mondays CDT) (Menomonie Area)       |     |           |      |      |        |
| Gr. Bay                              | No  | 72/12     | 0145 | 2045 | WB9NRK |
| (Green Bay Area)                     |     |           |      |      |        |
| ARES                                 | No  | 4.65/5.25 | 0100 | 2000 |        |
| (South East/South Central Wisconsin) |     |           |      |      |        |
| RACES                                | No  | 3993.5    | 1300 | 0800 | WA9OAY |
| (LSB Sunday)                         |     |           |      |      |        |

November 18 and 19.

Any club providing communications for a Thanksgiving Day parade or Santa Claus Net?

Let me know if you would like a free list of 120 Wisconsin nets or 100 clubs.

Sorry to report Silent Key KC9BY of Genesee.

Thought of the month: *Success is a journey, not a destination.* □

## Annual SET to be Held October 21-22

This year, Emergency Coordinators (EC) and Net Managers (NM) will earn bonus points for signing up new hams for participation in the annual Fall classic, the ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET)! SET is a nationwide exercise in emergency communications, administered by ECs and NMs. Both ARES and the National Traffic System (NTS) are involved. The SET weekend gives communicators the opportunity to focus on the emergency communications capability within your community while interacting with NTS nets. SET weekend will be held October 21-22.

### Purpose of SET

1. To find out the strengths and weaknesses of ARES and NTS, the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and other groups in providing emergency communications.
2. To provide a public demonstration to served agencies such as Red Cross, Civil Preparedness, and through the news media, of the value to the public that Amateur Radio provides, particularly in time of need.
3. To help radio amateurs gain experience in communications using standard procedures and a variety of modes under simulated emergency conditions.

### Format

The scoring format reflects broad objectives and encourages recruitment of new hams and use of digital modes for handling high-volume traffic and point-to-point Welfare reports out of the affected simulated-disaster area. Participants will find SET an opportunity to strengthen the VHF-HF link at the

local level, thereby ensuring that ARES and NTS are working in concert.

The SET will give all levels of NTS the chance to handle exercise-related traffic. The guidelines also recognize tactical traffic on behalf of served agencies.

Test messages should carry the word "TEST" before the precedence; that is, "Test Priority" on phone and "TEST P" on CW. The text of such messages should also begin with the words "TEST MESSAGE."

ARES units and other groups are free to conduct their SETs anytime during September 1 and November 30 if an alternative date is preferred. The activity period should not exceed 48 hours. The deadline for receipt of all reports is January 31. A complete array of reporting forms will be mailed to affected Field Organization appointees. After the SET weekend, ECs and Net Managers must send one set of their completed forms to ARRL HQ, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111, one set to the Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) or Section Traffic Manager (STM), and keep the other copy for their records.

### Preparing for SET

#### Emergency Coordinators:

1. Sign up all available amateurs in the area under your jurisdiction and work them into your SET plans. Make special efforts to attract new Technicians as outlined above.
2. Call a meeting of all ARES members and prospective members to briefly outline (no details!) SET activities, and give general instructions. Do not divulge the exact time or nature of the test to

## WNA Meeting Minutes

August 20, 1995

The meeting was called to order by President KE9VU at 1:52. Present were KE9VU, WB9JSW, KA9BAE, K9FHI, KY9P, WB9ICH, N9CKC, and W9AYK. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as published, ICH-FHI, carried.

President reminded us that WNA manuals are available at \$4.00 plus \$1.93 shipping from SCM KA9KLZ. They are also available on computer disk. Send your disk to KA9KLZ. He will copy it for you and return it for postage costs.

No treasurer's report was available.

Net reports were presented as follows:

**BWN (W9AYK):** Has been using computer input to NWS Sullivan since July 1, 1995. There are still problems with the modem link to NWS. It has a nasty habit of cutting off before the complete message has been sent. Liaison stations are WB9JSW, W9IHW, and W9AYK. Summer static is a frequent detriment, along with deep fading.

**BEN (KE9VU):** Traffic count is up 4-5 pieces per session, with about 20 checkins per session.

**WSBN (K9FHI):** NCS are filled most of the time. Summer static has been horrendous on some sessions.

**WIN-E (WB9ICH):** Checkins average 5-6 per session lasting between 8-10 minutes per session. Traffic has been light.

**WSSN (KY9P):** NCS positions are mostly filled, with 4-11 pieces of traffic per session lasting 10-12 minutes per session.

**WIN-L (N9CKC):** Reported (in lieu of W9-NGP) 4-5 checkins per session.

**NWTN:** No delegate present.

**WB9JSW** bulletin reporter indicated that he can use more representation for various sessions.

### OLD BUSINESS

Wisconsin Novice Net future was brought up again. The subject was tabled until the on the air meeting in December.

### NEW BUSINESS

Officers were elected as follows: President, Wayne Schanke, KE9VU. Treasurer, Fred Becker, W9KKM. Secretary, Jim Merrell, W9AYK. Each candidate was elected by unanimous ballot.

The WNA decided to give a big thank you to WB9YPY for over 10 years service to the BWN as chief liaison to NWS, and as net manager and delegate. Thank you, Jim!

Next meeting will be on the air Sunday December 10, immediately following the BEN session on 3.985 MHz. Meeting was adjourned at 2:30.

Submitted by W9AYK, Secretary

them at this time. This should come as a surprise. Take this opportunity to register new ARES members and get up-to-date information on others. Hold an on-the-air meeting if it's not possible to meet in person.

3. Contact served agencies and explain the intent and overall purpose of the SET. Offer to send test messages to other branches of their agencies, and invite officials to your ARES meetings and SET operating sites.

4. Contact officials of any adjacent communities having no active amateurs and offer to provide representation in amateur networks for them as well.

5. Arrange publicity in consultation with an ARRL Public Information Officer in local newspapers and radio/TV stations by preparing an an-

ELMER

By Rich Regent, K9GDF



Please turn to page 9

**PortaPole?**

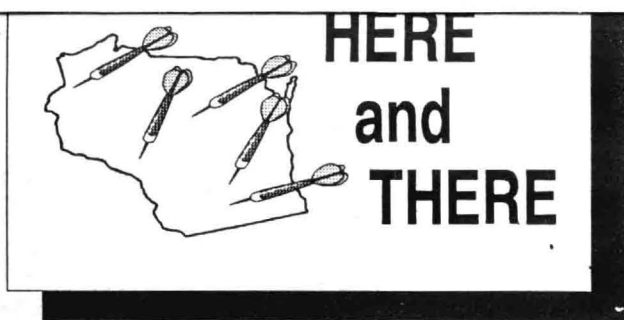
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## Letter Signals Demise of CW on MARS Circuits

According to a letter released in early August by the U.S. Department of Defense's Emmett Paige, Jr., assistant secretary of defense for command, control, communications and intelligence: "Effective October 1, 1996, it is directed that the CW mode of communications will no longer be used on any Department of Defense (DoD) MARS circuits, networks, or frequencies."

"MARS has been steadfastly evolving to newer technologies to improve service. Technology such as single sideband replaced amplitude modulation to provide greater frequency efficiency. Likewise, packet radio, AMTOR, PACTOR, GTOR, and CLOVER modes of operation have replaced radio teletype."

"CW use and need in MARS communications has diminished over the years. It is recognized that CW can no longer compete with the rapid developments in radio technology."

"Therefore, CW is to be retired from use within the DoD MARS."

The use of CW on MARS circuits has been declining for some years.

- The ARRL Letter, 9/7/95

## German Cosmonaut/Ham Joins Busy, Happy Crew on MIR

German cosmonaut Thomas Reiter, DF4TR, has arrived at the Russian space station Mir. He will stay there for 135 days and operate DP0MIR, as time permits. Presently there are two crews aboard Mir, both very busy with scientific experiments.

One of the crews will return to earth in a few days, and Reiter is expected to have more time for Amateur Radio thereafter.

Listen for DP0MIR on 145.800 MHz for instructions for where to transmit.

Reiter expects to install 70cm equipment capable of FM voice and 9600 baud packet modes sometime during his stay.

Thomas Kieselbach, DL2MDE, and Joerg Hahn, DL3LUM, of the Ham Radio Group of DLR (which is the German Mission Control for EURO-MIR 95) said that there also will be picture transmission from Mir by means of a new SSTV mode. This new mode will transmit pictures, taken by a still video camera aboard MIR, in AX.25 packets.

## Silent Key

EDWARD F. HELLMAN, JR., KC9BY, of the town of Geneseo, died August 30, 1995. Ed was an active member of the Kettle Moraine Amateur Radio Club, and was serving a term as treasurer. Ed's hard work for the club and the hobby will be missed by the KMRA.

- From Ken Secora, N9KS

The protocol of this mode does not generate "line by line" pictures, but uses "random" sampling, making it possible to have an idea of the picture received after a short time, with the resolution improving as the transmission continues.

This information came from Norbert Norrhoff, DF5DP, the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club satellite and space projects coordinator.

- ARRL Bulletin ARLS013, 9/12/95

## Sky Search Gets Name

A name and starting date have been chosen for a radio astronomy project that aims to involve large numbers of radio amateurs.

The SETI League has chosen "Project Argus" as the name for its upcoming search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI). The SETI League hopes eventually to involve 5000 amateurs worldwide in scanning the sky. Earth Day, April 21, 1996, is the target date for beginning the project.

The name Argus was chosen in 1971 at Stanford University for a proposed ultimate SETI receiver that was never funded. Argus was a mythological figure with 100 eyes that could look in all directions at once.

Dr. Robert Dixon, W8ERD, a SETI League advisor and assistant director of the Ohio State University Radio Observatory, hopes to share technology with the SETI League, according to SETI League Executive Director Paul Shuch, N6TX.

More information on amateurs' role in radio astronomy was in August 1995 *QST*, page 37.

- ARRL Bulletin ARLX050, 9/12/95

## Madison WX Office Skywarn LO Position Terminates

After more than 10 years of providing a Skywarn Liaison Officer to the Madison National Weather Service Office, the LO position is terminating on Oct 1, 1995. With the realignment of National Weather Service offices, the Madison office will be assuming a backup responsibility for the Sullivan and Green Bay Weather Offices and no longer require Skywarn support. The packet and 2 meter voice equipment will be relocated to the American Red Cross hamshack in Madison. The Skywarn Liaison Officer for South Central Wisconsin will be assumed by hams supporting the Sullivan Weather Office.

During severe weather watches and warnings, the Dane County ARES/RACES will provide a Liaison Officer at the Division of Emergency Government EOC hamshack in Madison to provide backup coverage for the Sullivan Weather Office. The DEG EOC is fully equipped with a weather radar display terminal, weather data and voice

## Managers X 4



In the photo files, we came across this picture of four former ARRL Wisconsin Section Communications Managers. The location where it was taken and the year of the photo are unknown, but is was not recently. Left to right: Joe Taylor, W9OMT, Green Bay; Sid Pokorny, W9NRP, Fort Atkinson (later W5UAU in Arkansas, where he also served as SCM), now a Silent Key; Ken Ebner, K9GSC, Portage (now K9EN); and George "Bud" Woida, W9KQB, Manitowoc, a Silent Key.

- Photo by Jim Romelfanger, K9PKQ (now K9ZZ)

links, as well as ham HF, packet, and 2 meter voice.

Dane County ARES/RACES personnel have been authorized key access to the DEG EOC in acknowledgement of the important communications support they provide during emergencies. The South Central Wisconsin net control station personnel will continue to be coordinated by Tom Weeden, WJ9H.

- Mack Brophy, N9NTB

## Marshfield Club Helps Bike Race and Pleasure Ride

Members of the Marshfield Area Amateur Radio Society took part in the September 10, 1995 running of the Ronald McDonald Cranberry Century bike tour at Marshfield, Wisconsin. The tour is a race and pleasure ride to raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House at Marshfield, where parents of children staying at the hospital can reside to be near their children.

The M.A.A.R.C. club provides communications to the headquarters of the race in case of injury or emergency, and also mans water and refreshment stands along the course. There are 100-, 60-, and 25-mile routes the bikers can take. Over 160 racers participated in this year's run.

Dick Hannemann, W9FYP, coordinated the amateurs for this year's tour. Helping were KB9-KSR, KA0TTB, WB0KIN, and KF9MN.

- Bob Morrow, WA9BVZ  
Secretary, M.A.A.R.S.

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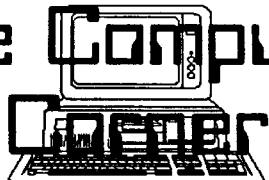
Send this form, with your check or money order, to Jim Decker, WB9UQT, Treasurer, P.O. Box 337, Baraboo, WI 53913-0337. Please do NOT send cash!

October 1995





# The Computer



By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR  
105 Martin Drive  
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654  
(414) 284-9346  
WB9RQR @ N9PBY.EN63BI.WI.USA.NA  
SKAPLAN @ POST.ITS.MCW.EDU

## No. 24: MODEMS

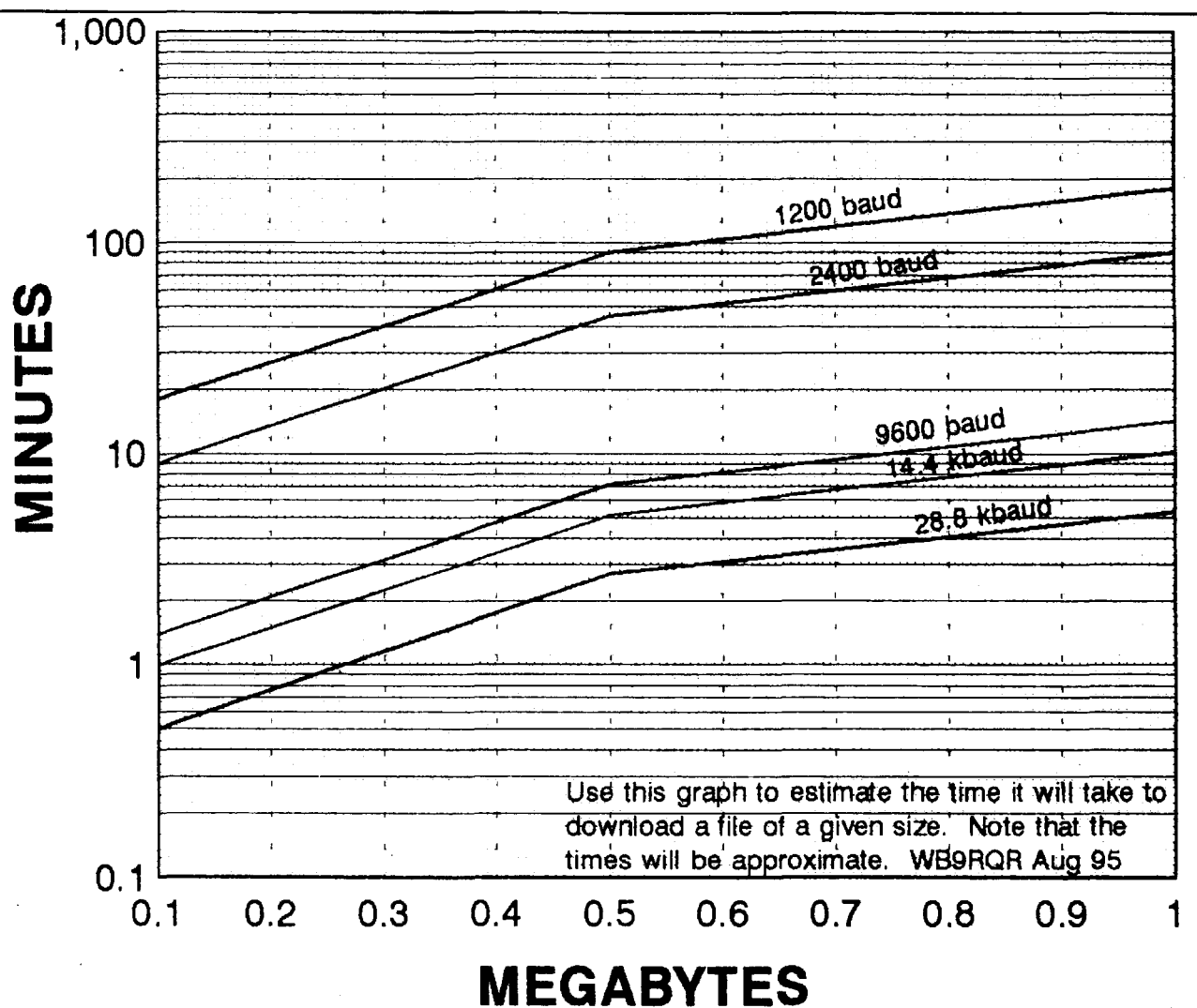
Most people who own a computer today also use a modem. Some use them to communicate over the phone lines with their favorite bulletin board system (BBS), or to access the Internet (my Internet address is listed above), or even to access one computer from another in the same home or office.

The terms and language used to describe modems and their use can be quite foreign to a new user. If you are interested or need help, an excellent dictionary exists called *The Modem Dictionary*, by R. Scott Perry, but you can't buy it in a store. To obtain a copy, use your modem (!) to connect to Exec-PC or other favorite BBS and look for the file MDIC150.ZIP or MODICT.ZIP or MODDIZ.ZIP. Download and UNZIP it and you have Version 1.50 (1993) of a really very good compilation of terms and definitions concerning modems. Mr. Perry did this dictionary and updates as a labor of love, and he has made it free to all who want a copy. If you have trouble finding it, send me a note and I will be happy to send you an unzipped copy (specify disk size preference).

Aside from all the esoteric words you may wish to look up in Perry's dictionary, what sorts of things are we hams most interested in with regard to modems? Most of us are interested in BAUD RATE (named after the scientist J. Baudot), which tells us something about the speed with which our modem can do file transfers. Baud rate is defined as:

1 / length of time it takes to transmit a single data bit

If you will recall, I have talked in the past about a single group of 8 toggle switches (8 bits) being able to represent any character in a computer, such as the letter A or the letter a. Actually, in modem



work, it takes 10 bits. One bit is called a START BIT, signaling the beginning of a group of 8 data bits, and another is the STOP bit, signaling the end. Although not strictly true, BAUD RATE and BITS PER SECOND (bps) can be considered to be identical. Therefore, since it takes 10 bits to transmit a character, a 300 baud modem can send at the rate of about 30 characters per second. Fundamentally speaking, then, about 30 letters, spaces or punctuation marks will be sent every second by this modem. That seems pretty fast when one translates it to code speed - it represents about 360 words per minute. However, by today's standards a 300 baud modem is painfully slow. No one wants a 300 baud modem. You can purchase a 1200 baud unit for about \$5, 2400 baud for about \$10, 14,400 baud for under \$70 and 28,800 baud in the under \$200 range at this writing. Converted to code speed, a 28,800 bps modem sends at the rate of 345,600 words per minute!

Really, what we all want to know is how long

it will take us to download a file of a particular size. Without a lot of explanations and hedging, let me answer that question with by referring you to the graph.

The graph takes into account some fancy tricks the newer modems use to speed things up, and it will provide a good approximation of the actual time it will take with modems of various speeds. It is interesting to see from this graph that a 1200 baud modem will take close to 20 minutes to download a 100,000 byte file, while a 28.8 kbaud modem will do it in half a minute. At the other end, a 1200 baud modem will take two hours (180 minutes on the graph) to download a 1 megabyte file, while a 28.8 kbaud unit will do it in about 5 minutes. You get what you pay for! Happy modemming.

Reprinted, by permission, from the ORC Newsletter, Ozaukee Radio Club, P.O. Box 13, Port Washington, Wisconsin 53074 (Ray Meyer, N9PBY, Editor). □

## PRODUCT REVIEW

### MFJ POCKET MORSE TUTOR Model MFJ-411

Reviewed by Mike Greenfield, N9JIY

This is a little carry-around gadget designed to help folks learn CW. Size is approx. 3.5" x 5.5" x 1.25". It might weigh a pound. In its black-painted case of 16 gauge sheet aluminum, it looks nearly bulletproof!

The Tutor has several user-selectable options:

CHARACTER SETS C1 through C7 - C1 through C4 break the alphabet into 4 letter groups; C1 is EISHTMO, etc. C5 and C6 are numbers. C7 is the common prosigns. This is just for beginners.

ADVANCED OPTIONS - Lets you pick just letters (all 26), just numbers, just prosigns, or letters/numbers/prosigns combined. These are sent at random. Also offered are common words, and simulated QSOs.

You pick Normal/Farnsworth spacing, and length of character groups you'll hear: 5 character

only, or random. You pick sending speed. And you can get repeat a series you just heard. LEDs and a 2-character display let you know what you've picked. There's an off/on button and two other buttons that you "click" separately or simultaneously to operate the device. The front of the Tutor has instructions silk screened on it, so operation is very easy.

The Tutor uses a single 9V transistor radio battery. It has a coaxial type plug for external 12V, and a 1/8" stereo earphone jack.

Once you've made your operating choices, you "double click" to "GO", see a 5-second countdown on the display, and start to hear CW. The LEDs and display turn off automatically to save battery power.

In short, it would be a well designed little single-purpose device typical of MFJ, EXCEPT FOR FOUR THINGS:

1. IMPORTANT In Advanced Options-Letters/Numbers/Prosigns, you hear the common prosigns, plus 11 or 12 that are almost NEVER heard on the air. When did you last hear a dollar sign, a left parentheses or start-of-paragraph character? This is very confusing! It should be the single most useful option. Instead, it's almost useless to me!

2. Belt Clip - The Tutor begs to be carried around like a portable tape player, but there's no belt clip or case provided to do so. You'll have to figure something on your own.

3. Battery Changing - You have to have a Phillips head screwdriver! None of the little snap doors we've come to expect.

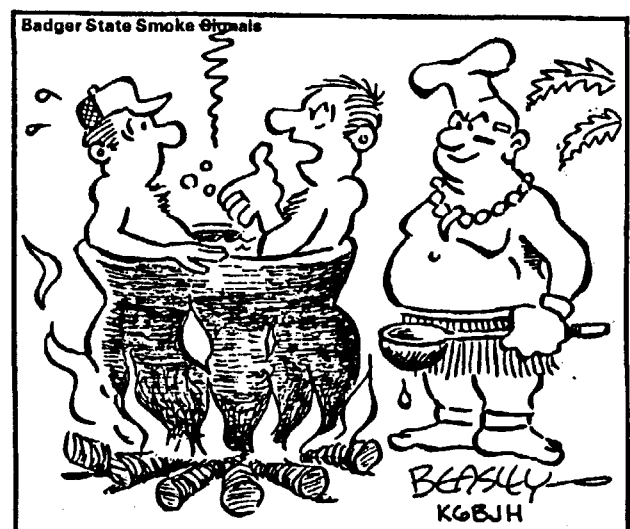
4. Price - Most places you'll have to shell out about \$80 to walk home with the Tutor. That's a little stiff in light of 1, 2, and 3 above.

- Mike Greenfield, N9JIY  
2437 Magna Vista Drive, Jackson, WI 53037

## "Stinky" Call Sign Gets Flushed

Patrick, AA9PU, said, "This call stinks!" He requested a new call sign and is now AA9QB. Patrick is from Ireland and holds an EI (Ireland) call sign as well.

- The Feedline, Four Lakes ARC/Dick Burton, N9BAF, editor



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# Ask Elmer

**Q: Have you heard of any unusual computer problems caused by beginners?**

**A:** One beginner got a 5-1/4 inch floppy disk stuck in the CD ROM drive (this is the truth). Another newcomer was trying to load a program consisting of four disks into his new computer. He remarked, "I got three disks in the drive already but the fourth won't fit."

**Q: I've heard it can be expensive to solve computer problems by asking for help from professionals. How expensive?**

**A:** A consultant gets (including his or her overhead expenses) \$75 an hour and a network expert costs \$120 per hour. Technical support over the telephone can cost around \$25 per call, sometimes charges are as much as \$3 per minute.

**Q: Is there an inexpensive computer diagnostic program I could get?**

**A:** You might already have one. It's called Microsoft Diagnostics (with the file name MSD.EXE) and it comes with Windows 3.1 and DOS 6.0. MSD was intended to enable Microsoft technicians to identify potential hardware problems. But you can give it a try. When in the WINDOWS or MS-DOS path type MSD. The program will display basic system information such as type of computer and video, memory, network use, DOS version, mouse, disk drives, LPT and COM ports, IRQ status, TSR programs and device drivers. It also includes utilities to display memory block, browse memory, insert command and test printer. You might also look for shareware diagnostic programs on bulletin boards.

**Q: Why doesn't MSD detect IRQ on network?**

**A:** MSD won't detect IRQ's used by many network cards, sound/multimedia cards and tape backup cards, mostly due to incompatibilities. When you install these cards, write down the assignments used on the IRQ list which was created and printed with MSD.

**Q: Why doesn't my Windows 3.1 work at the 14,400 baud rate?**

**A:** There is a bug in the Microsoft Windows 3.1 communications driver at the 14,400 baud rate. Depending on your modem, select either 9,600 baud or, if you have a 28,800 modem, select 19,200 baud and the modem will negotiate down to a 14,400 connection. You could also upgrade since the bug has been fixed for Windows in Workgroups 3.11 and Windows 95.

Do you have a question or a problem? Ask Elmer! Send your questions (no telephone calls, please) to "Ask Elmer," 5003 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53221. □



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The FCC has begun mailing notices of upcoming amateur license expirations. Those amateurs whose licenses would expire in December 1995 are being sent, by first class mail, a computer-generated Form 610-R "short form."

The Commission's Gettysburg facility expects to mail more than 5000 such notices this week, covering expirations from December 1 to December 20, 1995.

The new Form 610-R may be signed, dated, and returned to the FCC to renew the license, provided

that no changes (such as address) are needed. It will be permissible to correct misspelled words. For other changes along with renewal, it will be necessary to file a regular FCC Form 610.

For some time the ARRL has been sending license expiration notices as a free membership service. That service will be discontinued once the new FCC program is established.

There is no monetary fee for an amateur license renewal.

- ARRL Bulletin ARLB087, 9/22/95

## Commissioner Quello Opposes FCC Cuts

Long-time FCC Commissioner James H. Quello has opposed a proposal by Chairman Reed Hundt to close some Commission offices and reduce staff.

Quello said that while in principle he supports the idea of streamlining when possible, that he was "not prepared" to support Hundt's proposal, especially concerning staff reductions. "I am concerned," Quello said, "with the rushed timing of (Hundt's) administrative approach. I believe any reductions should have been discussed with Commissioners in advance of a one-day notice, particularly while Congress is in recess and some Commissioners are on vacation.

"In my view, any reorganization of this commission must take careful account of our core functions," Quello said, "and assure that their integrity is not compromised. I am not sure the plan described.. will achieve this, particularly in light of the sharp disagreement that has arisen over the staffing and functions of the field offices of our Compliance and Information Bureau. In my opinion, there are other areas for reductions that do not involve the vital local public service of the Compliance and Information Bureau in numerous large cities.

"I will pay particularly close attention to assuring that those parts of the Commission that allocate the spectrum, safeguard its integrity, and license its use are not adversely impacted," Quello said.

The proposal would close three FCC regional offices, nine field offices, and all nine monitoring stations. More information appeared in a previous bulletin and will appear in October *QST* League Lines.

- ARRL Bulletin ARLB085, 9/12/95

# The Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs

## 17th Annual Fall

### 1995 Computer Fair and Hamfest

# Sunday, October 15th, 1995

## FREE PARKING!

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**VENDOR SETUP AT 6:00 A.M.**

Responses to all correspondence and ticket requests received on or after October 7, 1995 will be held at the door!



# EDITORIAL

## How to Kill a Ham

Editorial by Kuby, N6JSX/9

1502 South 10th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220

I've seen hams come and go. The cause of their silence is not due to being a "Silent Key", but that their ham spirit was killed by other hams. Occasionally, the reason for a ham's silence is discovered. The common reasons are:

- "I'm tired of listening to the \_\_\_\_\_ crud!"
- "I've been black-balled by the club's clique!"
- "I'm sick and tired of hearing false innuendos about me or others!"

Additional causes of a broken-spirited hams are: burned out, over worked, or frustrated club officer, discriminated upon by manipulated elections, NO recognition of efforts or contributions, being black-balled by the inside ruling clique, telephone character assassinations or sniping, asked to do a project and then get NO officer support, or not being allowed to get involved in club projects even though one has experience and knowledge to contribute.

When a ham decides that Amateur Radio is not worth the personal aggravation, the usual remedy is to turn off their radio(s) and fade away into inactivity or pursuits unrelated to the club.

The quickest way to get totally burned out on ham radio is to become a repeater club officer or a club member volunteering to work projects. Most hams become club officers to help and make a positive difference. They are well-meaning with good intentions. But being an officer with integrity, practicing equality, and being willing to run the club as a democracy, "one vote for each member," will surely rock the boat and make you a target for political character assassination by the inside ruling clique of the club.

As an ethical officer nothing you can do will be good enough - no matter how reasonable you are or how logical your actions - **YOU DID NOT DO THE RIGHT THING** to someone! An ethical officer may survive a term in office, but do NOT expect to receive a heart felt thank you for your services at the end of the term. However, if you are a gutless follower who will allow the ruling clique to manipulate and control you, you can be an officer for years and receive high praise for your efforts!

Another burn-out method is to become a volunteer or local officer for a national ham organization or RACES group. Then you can be used, abused, and discarded, merely for trying to improve the system or for questioning the logic of their methods. Involvement in these organizations can give you great insight on how much false recognition goes to some politically sensitive "do-nothing hams." In time, you may discover that you are just being used to further the organization's financial affairs. Remember, NO national organization stays in business without money!

If you want to make ham radio a life long hobby, then accept a ham leadership position only with your eyes wide open. Ham radio has much to offer and many various types of communication. Get your feet wet and decide which direction you want to pursue in ham radio before getting involved in club politics or projects! Becoming an officer can give you much "personal" satisfaction. However, be ready to put on a helmet, flack jacket, and toughen up your emotions. Get involved in the club with guarded expectations. Do NOT expect the recognition you deserve. Be prepared to see political insiders take credit for your work or belittle your efforts. Remember, for some hams, it is easier to hurl negative comments and cut you up than give, truly, positive comments or actions.

To all ethical hams and prospective club officers: - **GOOD LUCK!**

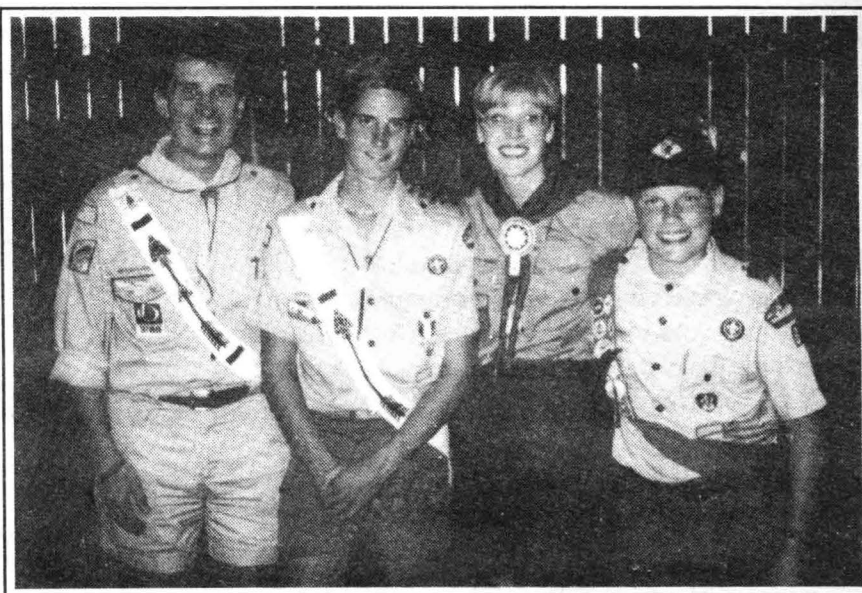
©1995, Dale R. Kubichek, Manitowoc, WI. All rights reserved. This article or any part of it may NOT be reprinted without my expressed written permission. The only exception is to non-profit Amateur Radio organizations! □

BSSS editor's note: Comments on Kuby's editorial should be mailed to K9ZZ; address on page 2.

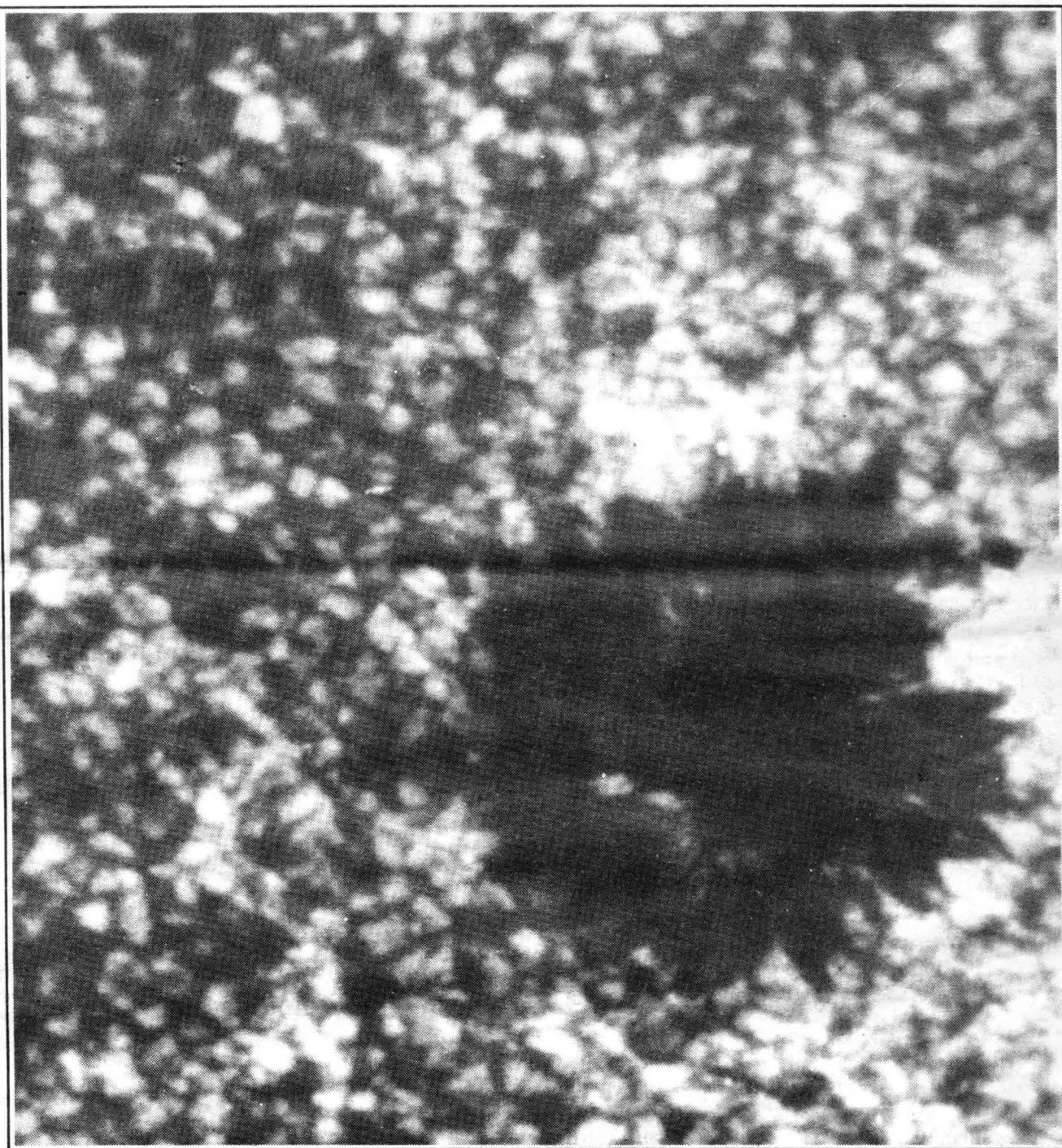
## King Sons Achieve Scouting Honors

The King family, of Eau Claire, WI, celebrate Adam King's Eagle Scout Award and Seth King's call to membership in the Order of the Arrow on July 28, 1995 at Phillips Scout Reservation, Haugen, WI. The Kings are an all-ham family. Left to right are Tom King, WF9I (Eagle Scout, 1965); Adam, N9JRC; Debbi, N9GLG, and Seth, N9LHX. Seth is also a Life Scout, and will soon attain his Eagle rank. Adam and Seth were first licensed as radio amateurs at ages 10 and 9, respectively.

- Photo courtesy Tom King/WF9I



## PROPAGATION PRODUCER



With the new solar cycle apparently having begun more than a little early, and with the beneficial effect these usually have on propagation on the HF Amateur Radio bands, we thought we'd show you one. This photo of the solar surface, showing a small sunspot, was taken as part of the Solar Optical Universal Polarimeter (SOUP), carried aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger for STS-51F/Spacelab 2 in August, 1985. The solar picture has a resolution of 0.3 arc seconds. Such high resolution photos are obtained only in rare moments of good "seeing" at ground-based observatories. On Spacelab 2, high resolution photos every two seconds were combined to make a spectacular time-lapse movie which shows the evolution and motions of the solar granulation pattern. The granules are convective cells in the surface layer of the Sun. The area of the sunspot is roughly that of the contiguous United States of America. The photo is courtesy of Dr. Alan M. Title, SOUP principal investigator, who is with the Lockheed Palo Alto Research Laboratory.

- Front page photo and this photo courtesy of NASA

### Briefly Noted..

• Barbara K. Doe, editor of the DEG (Department of Emergency Government) Digest, is looking for articles about "ham" activities in support of emergency government. fire, first responder, Red Cross, etc., activities. Anyone who might have something they would like to submit can send it to: Barbara K. Roe, Editor, P.O. Box 7865, Madison, WI 53707-7865.

- Mack, N9NTB

• Amateurs with InterNet access may wish to

check out the Restrictive Antenna Covenants Home Page, maintained by Don Stoner, W6TNS. It features not only information on Stoner's own battle with his condominium association in Clearwater, Florida, but also lists other resources for information of interest to radio amateurs. Stoner's home page is at:

<http://www.hamweb.com/~sjl/STONER/ANTENNA.html>

- ARRL Bulletin ARLX054, 9/21/95

Does your business sell to hams? Advertise in BSSS! Call or write Ken Ebner, K9EN, for full information and rates.



Continued from page 4

nouncement and/or inviting the press to observe your group's SET operation.

6. Set up liaison with one or more NTS local/section nets (if you don't already have liaison) so you will have an outlet for all messages out of the local area.

7. Formulate your plans around a simulated disaster. Possible "plots" include: a flood, a serious fire, an ice storm, a missing person, a serious accident (automobile, bus, aircraft, for examples), a broken gas line, and so forth. Elaborate on the situation by developing a scenario, but please be realistic.

### During the SET

1. Announce the emergency situation. Activate the emergency net. Dispatch mobiles to served agencies.

2. Have designated stations originate messages on behalf of served agencies. Test messages may be sent simulating requests for supplies. Simulated emergency messages (just like real emergency messages) should be signed by an authorized official. Emphasize tactical communications for served agencies.

3. As warranted by traffic loads, have liaison stations on hand to receive traffic on the local net and relay to your section net. You should also be sure that there is a representative on each session of the section net to receive traffic going to the local area.

4. Operate at least one session (or substantial segment of a session) of the local net on emergency-only basis. Or, if a repeater is on emergency power, allow only emergency-powered stations to operate through the repeater for a certain time period.

### After the SET

An important post-SET activity is a critique session to discuss the test results. All ARES (and RACES) members should be invited to the meeting to review good points and weaknesses apparent in the drill. Emphasize ways to improve procedures, techniques, and coordination with all groups involved. Report your group's effort using the appropriate forms and include any photos, clippings and other items of interest.

### National Traffic System

The main function of NTS in an emergency situation is to tie together all of the various local activities and to provide a means by which all traffic destined outside of a local area, section or region can be systematically relayed to the addressee.

Normal NTS routing should be followed. A valid exception is the handling of emergency traffic which should be routed as rapidly and efficiently as possible, bypassing various levels of nets when delivery can be expedited. Another exception is when one station is loaded down with traffic for one region or section. At the discretion of the Net Control Station (NCS), the station may be directed to bypass a normal channel and go directly to a lower (or higher) echelon net.

The interface between NTS and ARES lies in the liaison function between local nets and other NTS nets, particularly at the section level. Responsibility for representation of the local network on the section net lies with the local net manager, who may or may not be the EC.

Although we usually think of ARES members being the representatives in section nets, it is equally valid to expect NTS personnel to act as liaison to local nets.

At least one net session or substantial segment of a session should be conducted on emergency power.

Plan a surprise session or two. Advise the NCS just before net time. If NCS is unable to operate on emergency power, then someone else must be net control.

Only stations operating on emergency power

### Summary

One of the first steps on the way to a successful SET is to try to get as many people involved as possible, and especially new hams. In a real emergency, we find amateurs with all sorts of varied interests coming out of the woodwork. Let's get them involved in SET so they will know more about how emergency communications should be handled. Promote SET on nets and repeaters, and

## For The Ladies

By Nancy Johnson, N9NZM  
407 Adams Street  
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Dear Nancy:

*I read in the September 95 Smoke Signals that you were surprised at the lack of response from women hams out here. Here are some thoughts: I have been a ham for 40 years. My uncle, W9SLT, got me started in amateur radio. I was first licensed as K9OBD here in Eau Claire. I remember my grandfather putting up a 15 foot pole with my call and name on it. He was proud of me. And, the local newspaper did an article on me; I was one of the first women licensed in Northern Wisconsin- if not the first. I now have my W6OAE (Old American Eagle) station at my lake home in Holcombe, Wisconsin. And I'm a Wisconsin resident. A highlight of my ham years was as a DX station, T30CH, when I lived in Tarawa, Kiribati in the Mid Pacific. I wonder how many women hams are in Wisconsin. Maybe we should form a club? As it is now, in many clubs, the women hams are relegated to bringing the club meeting cookies and snacks. Isn't that true, guys? Our club could be called the Wisconsin Women Wireless Wizards. OMs would be*

many ripe for picking. Many of those offering to help will be inexperienced in public-service activities. It's up to you to explain what's going on to them, and provide them with useful roles. They may like it so much that they become a permanent fixture in your ARES or NTS group. For a review of last year's nationwide Simulated Emergency Test, see the article in July QST.

- Field Forum, July 1995  
Published by the ARRL for field organization volunteers

accepted if they bought the cookies. Any comments or ideas?

Yes, Vicki, after reading my first response, I too wonder how many lady hams are out there. I would also like to thank you for contributing and being a part of the column. And would any of you be interested in our own club? Are any of you active VEs? What do you do to help your community or club? I still have not gotten a great response from you. I know you're out there! How about adding to the column? This column is for and about, as well as authored by, lady hams so, add your own ideas and comments to this section. Send them to Nancy Johnson, N9NZM, 407 Adams St., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538.

I have noticed too, that as we become members of local clubs, it's a miracle to not get elected as treasurer or secretary for the club. The only downfall I could see to a club for the ladies is that this is one hobby I share with my hubby. I would not want the radio to become another thing to take up time we would then be spending apart. My comments may be short, but I wanted to include the letter from Vicki, just to let others see and read that I will indeed take your input seriously. □

**COMING IN NOVEMBER BSSS**  
✓ Wisconsin Repeater Directory  
✓ Hams in Disaster Drill in Sauk County

### Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club

## HAM & COMPUTER FEST 95

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

STARLITE CLUB KAUKAUNA, WI

AMATEUR RADIO, COMPUTERS, SWAP TABLES,  
VE TESTING AND MUCH, MUCH MORE.

The hamfest this year has been expanded to better suit vendors and FEST goers. The cost of admission includes a chance at the grand prize. More chances can be purchased separately.

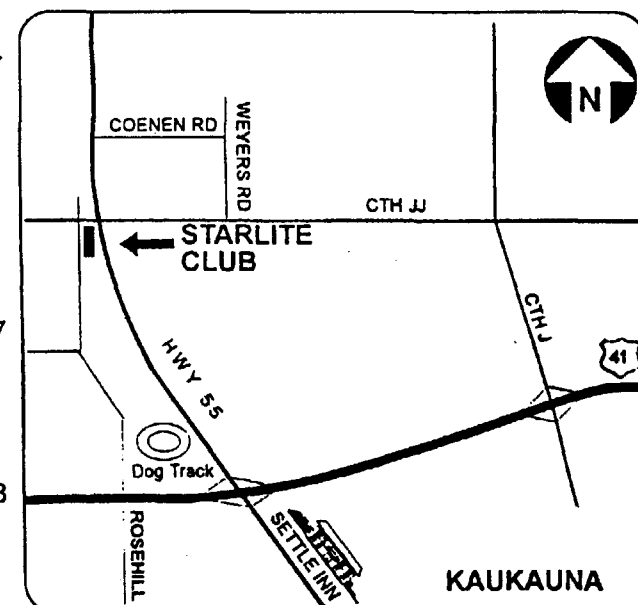
TALK-IN FREQUENCY 146.76-

### VE TESTING

- Check in between 8 and 9 a.m.
- No walk-ins after 9 a.m.
- Bring original license plus two (2) copies
- Bring a photo-id

Contact George Croy W9MDP at (414) 730-0967

\* VENDORS: Special lodging rates at the Settle Inn of Kaukauna. (414) 766-0088



Send to: FCARC  
C/O Dan Vanevenhoven N9LVS  
2410 E. Newberry Ct.  
Appleton, WI 54915

Amateur Call: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name or Co: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Tables: \$6.00ea X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Admit: \$4.00ea X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Due: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to FCARC  
If you have any questions call Dan at (414) 739-5101



# PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

## Racine Megacycle Club

Alex Voss, N9RGX, Secretary

3333 Standish Lane • Racine, WI 53405

Meeting Minutes  
September 11, 1995

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Smedegaard, N9RGW at 7:31 p.m. local. Each person present was asked to introduce themselves with name and call; 6 Amateur Extras, 7 Advanced, 3 General, 3 Technician+, 12 Technicians, and 3 non-hams were present.

Alex, N9RGX, gave the secretary's report, the minutes were accepted as read, with one correction: Dave, AA9HL, does not have tickets for the December Meeting, but is taking reservations.

Dave, AA9HL, gave the treasurer's report.

### OLD BUSINESS

Dave, WB9USI, moved to take the issue of the Racine Megacycle Club's name change off the table (The motion was tabled at the August meeting to be brought up in October); that was seconded. The motion was made by Ray, WB9LST, in August to change the club's name to the Megacycle Club. Dave, AA9HL, gave the report from the name change committee finding that since only 11% of the membership is from out of the city of Racine, and that we are the second oldest club in the state, and probably one of the older clubs in the nation, and that the committee's recommendation is to keep the Ra-

cine Megacycle Club as the name. A vote was taken by a show of hands; the motion failed.

### NEW BUSINESS

Alex, N9RGX, mentioned that he is in the progress of putting past club documents on computer and asked the membership to hand him any old club documents to be put in the computer. Please send any club documents (or photo copies) NO MATTER HOW OLD to secretary Alex Voss, N9RGX. The goal is to eventually have all club documents on computer, both as an historical record and as a current reference.

The Goodie Box went to Tony, N9-ZWM. Congratulations! (?)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

Dave, AA9HL, is taking reservations for the December meeting on Monday, December 11, 1995 at 7 p.m. The club will meet at the Chart Room restaurant, and then go see the Christmas lights on the Racine Trolley. Tickets are \$11.00 each. The tickets are open to Racine Megacycle Club Members only. If there are any seats left after the October meeting, then we will accept non-members. □

## Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

Carl Searing, W9NW, Secretary

1129 McKinley Road • Eau Claire, WI 54703

Meeting Minutes  
September 12, 1995

The meeting was opened by President Kevin Zehr, N9OHE, at 1930 hours. Some 38 members and guests were present. Following a general roll call, the secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

After a discussion of our recent successful swapfest, the subject of a site for the next one was worked over. With the new county fairgrounds now under construction, the president was authorized to contact the county fairgrounds representative and nail down a date and building, based upon their availability, price not to exceed a sum voted upon at this present meeting.

President Kevin made an appeal for volunteers for the nominating committee. Drawing a blank, he will try again next meeting.

Kudos to Carol Ceraso, N9TUA, and to Ken Dicks, KE9CS, on having pix and articles published in the Badger State Smoke Signals.

W9ZZI will pursue future programs for meetings, and is open to ideas for same.

The club Christmas party will take place on the usual meeting date in December, using the same room as last year. Nolene, N9MNA, was voted additional funds for party presents.

Jim Staatz, WB9RBP, volunteered to chair next year's Field Day activities, which may be held in conjunction with a club picnic. Those interested in FD operations, please contact Jim.

N9RSU, Leroy, will be the fox soon for a Saturday fox hunt. Details to be announced.

The membership voted to donate \$50.00 to *Radio Newsline*, the dial-up service we use regularly on our Sunday night net, to help alleviate their current financial crunch.

Hal Swanstrom, coordinator for the Planning and Development Department of the Eau Claire County Office of Emergency Government, spoke to us about an upcoming exercise. The simulated emergency will include a failure of the Lake Wissota dam. The exercise will be of a table-top nature, simulating strengths of response to a situation caused by water in the Chippewa River some 12 feet over flood stage. Hams could aid the Red Cross in locating people, with storm spotting as another task. Hal mentioned his experiences in the past with ARES and RACES groups, and said that he would welcome their aid locally.

SAREX involvement by the club? Mission Eau Claire again in 1996? These are possible club activities in the coming year.

Lunch committee for October: W9-BAR, N9TUA.

Minutes respectfully submitted by  
W9NW, Secretary

### Attention VE Teams

If your team sends its exam schedules to BSSS for publication (if not, why not?), they are to be sent ONLY to the editor of the "What's Happening" section, Ken Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Please do NOT send them to K9ZZ. We cannot be responsible for errors or omissions caused by misaddressed schedules.

## Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, Secretary

P. O. Box 401 • Abbotsford, WI 54405-0401

### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, October 5th at 7 p.m. in the Emergency Government meeting room located in the basement of the sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Talk-in on the 147.15 Medford repeater (+ 600 kHz) or 146.52 MHz simplex.

### EXCERPTS FROM MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 1995 MEETING

Meeting was called to order by President N9GEN. Present were KA9WDX, W9QHI, AA9LE, N9GEN, N9UBQ, KE4FE and N9GHZ.

Minutes of the August 3, 1995 meeting were read by Secretary N9GHZ. Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer KA9WDX. There were no new expenses or income since last month.

A letter still needs to be sent to Taylor County Sheriff Bill Brenneman to thank him for his recent assistance in ensuring maintenance coverage for the repeater. Apparently, nothing further has been accomplished in regards to the antenna sharing project between our repeater and a radio paging service out of Wausau.

Recent weather nets held and weather net procedures were discussed. The repeater was knocked off the air, most likely by lightning, during the storms that passed through the Medford area the evening of September 6th. It was back on the air by the time of the club meeting. Motion by N9UBQ, seconded by KE4FE, to have the club send out a mailing to all area SKY-WARN spotters to consist of a Taylor County grid map and a list of spotters broken down by geographic area. Motion carried. KA9WDX will take care of this mailing.

The club-sponsored Amateur Radio license exam scheduled for October 21st was discussed. N9GHZ sent the information to Badger State Smoke Signals for publication and put it out on the packet radio network. N9GHZ also mailed a copy of the announcement to all Taylor County area Volunteer Examiners. There are now 8 ARRL-accredited VE's in the Taylor County area. N9GEN will be the VE team contact person and N9GHZ will be the VE team liaison. N9GHZ will get the session registration/request for materials form in the mail to the ARRL VEC within the next week. It was decided to provide some sort of refreshments at the exam session. N9GHZ will take care of this.

N9GHZ shared the results of the summer Technician Class Amateur Radio license exam preparation course that he conducted at the Thorp Public Library in Thorp, Wis. Five individuals completed the course: Paul Goetsch, Cornell; John Grindle, Stanley; Dave Hathaway, Hol-

combe; Nadeen Sahr, Lublin; and C.J. Schmidt, Thorp. One individual has already gone on to pass the exams and earn a Technician Class license. The final class was held on August 28th at the residence of N9IFA and N9MED, and included a demonstration of HF, 2-meter voice and packet radio.

N9GHZ inquired as to whether anyone present at the meeting had been able to check in, via Amateur Radio frequencies, with the Amateur Radio station at the annual Wisconsin Governor's Conference on Emergency Management that was held on August 16th and 17th. No one present indicated any luck in contacting that station, either directly or via a relay.

N9GHZ announced that a talk on, and demonstration of, Amateur Radio will take place at the Abbotsford Boy Scouts meeting the evening of October 5th. WB9WBN from the Marshfield Area Amateur Radio Society was contacted with the request and will be in charge of the demonstration, but is looking for another Amateur Radio operator from the greater Abbotsford area to assist him.

Meeting was adjourned.

### CLARK/TAYLOR COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) NEWS

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ  
ARES Emergency Coordinator

Don't forget to try to check into the weekly ARES net held Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. on the Medford repeater (147.75/147.15). If the repeater is down or not functioning properly, alternate frequencies, in order, are 147.15 MHz simplex and 146.52 MHz simplex. You're also encouraged to volunteer for net control duty for the net.

Also, a reminder to all those who serve as a net control station for the weekly ARES net: Please keep a log of each net that you conduct. Information to be included in the log is the date of the net, callsign of who acted as net control operator, and a list of callsigns of those stations that checked into the net. Logs should be turned over to Taylor County ARES Emergency Coordinator N9GHZ, either at the next regular monthly club meeting, via mail or packet radio, in person, over the air, by telephone or by whatever other means is available. The SAME procedure should also be followed for any SEVERE WEATHER nets that are brought up, or for any other net operated during an emergency or disaster situation.

On 8/23/95, N9GHZ attended a planning meeting for a tabletop disaster exercise for Taylor County, in which the Tay-

Continued on page 11

## Central Wisconsin Repeater Association

28/88

**\$1.00 OFF**

34/94

(Annual membership dues \$20/year - Reg: \$10 for dues to 12/31/95)

New members send \$9 with this coupon to:

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**Box 802**

**Madison, WI 53701**

Include your Call, Name, address, and phone number.



## Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Continued from page 10

lor County ARES is to be involved. The meeting was held in the Taylor County Emergency Operations Center at the courthouse in Medford, Wis. and was attended by representatives from many different agencies, including the Taylor County Sheriff, Forest Service, Highway Dep't. and Office of Emergency Government; Red Cross; the Gilman Fire Dep't.; the Wis. Division of Emergency Government; the DNR; the Gilman School District and the Gilman Village President. Plans call for a simulated full scale disaster exercise for some time in April of 1996, to be held in the Gilman area. All Taylor County ARES members will be called upon to assist at that time, as they are available. The date will be passed

along to you as soon as it is known.

On 8/22/95, N9GHZ attended a planning meeting for a functional disaster exercise for Clark County, in which the Clark County ARES is to be involved. The meeting was held in the Greenwood fire hall in Greenwood, Wis. and was attended by representatives from many different agencies, including the Clark County Sheriff, Spirit of Marshfield air ambulance service, Wis. Division of Emergency Government, and several area police and fire depts. and ambulance services.

N9GHZ was recently informed that Florence Studinski, Director of Emergency Government for Clark County, has retired as of 8/31/95. It is not yet known who her successor is.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO..

★ Nadeen Sahr, Lublin, WI, who passed the Element 2 and 3A exams to earn her Technician Class license, at the VE examination session held on 8/26/95 at Tomahawk, WI. □

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS, LTD.

At University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point



WB9QFW 2-Meter Repeater 146.07.67 and Club Station

P. O. Box 923 • Plover, WI 54467

### Meeting Minutes September 13, 1995

President Lori Jasper, KA9ZGD, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Tonight's program was given by David Tamres, KB9IIF. David's program was on Building and Understanding Radios. It featured "non-crystal" crystal radio. The incredibly simple AM radio receiver described is constructed out of wire, a razor blade, a pencil, a couple of blocks of wood, a few paper clips and several thumb tacks. It contains one store-bought component: a high-impedance earphone or headset. No battery or power supply is needed to operate this receiver.

The minutes were approved as printed in WATTS SNOO. Joe Larson, N9JW, gave the treasurer's report. DUES ARE DUE!!!! Make sure you send in your dues. They are the same as they were the last year. Also, please make sure to send in the money for the club shirts which were purchased before the Special Olympics. A few people have not paid so please make sure you send in your money for the shirts. If you do not know or remember how much you owe, please make an effort to find out!!!! The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

Joe also reported that he will be starting a Novice/Technician class on September 27th. It will be at the UWSP Science Building. No room number has been assigned as of this date, however, when one is assigned, it will be announced in the local newspapers as to the time and room number. The exams are scheduled for December 2. The class will run for 9 weeks except for the weekend of Thanksgiving. Morse Code will be available. He will decide all the details when he figures out how many people in the class would be interested in it.

Bob Baird, W9NN, reported that .985 is back in operation and it was a few weeks ago. The problem was that the mill had some problems. They had several power outages one after another and it caused our back-up system, for one thing, output to go down to 5 watts. The power for the back up is supplied from a battery and an Astron Power Supply in series and due to the main power from the mill going off and on so fast, it did something to the system that we could not recover the amount of power that we need for the auxiliary to come on. It is coming back up now and is usable. All of the recorded messages had to be replaced because of this.

Mike Pagel, KA9LAQ, reported that we are having some problems with the .67 system that they have traced to the antenna. As best as they can recall, that antenna was replaced seven or eight years ago when Al Mallek, K9WVM, and Mike and one other person climbed up there and put the antenna up. It has a lot of mechanical connections and the problems seems to be that some of the mechanical connections are going bad. They put an SWR meter on it and it moved all over the place. What seems to happen is when people activate the repeater, transmit in a signal and it responds, it transmits out full power and desensitize its own receiver. They think there is some rectification occurring between the components and the antenna. The plan is to go up there and pull it down and clean it up and put it right back up again. If we have the same problem, then it appears it will need to be replaced. The antenna that is currently up there is a Hustler G7.

Mike also reported the old repeater is now in the club station. Art Wysocki, N9BCA, moved that we should allow up to \$175.00 to purchase the antenna if all other options are not feasible. Frank Guth, W9BCC second, the motion passed.

Scott Jasper, NE9U, reported on the results of the fox hunt. Dave Golla, OVT, was the winner. All the details on it were published in last month's minutes. Scott

also announced there were a couple of DX contests and Sweepstakes. It was also decided that the Monday night net will not be continued as an ARES net. For the time being, we will have this as an informational net.

Charlie Miller, WB9UMU, became a silent key on September 6, 1995. A moment of silence was given at the meeting in Charlie's memory. A card and flowers were sent. The members of the CWRA would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Charlie's family on their loss. Charlie will be missed.

Lori, KA9ZGD, announced that we are still looking for someone to take on the Swapfest and Raffle. This is our fund raiser for the year so we need people to take on this job. It does not have to be on person; it can be many. John Kalina, KA9DJA, said he would be willing to work with others on it but would not be willing to take it on alone. Joe Omernik, N9CGV, said he might be interested in taking on the Raffle. Lori said it would be a real shame if we let it go after Art, N9BCA, worked so hard to build up such a fine repore with all the dealers and put so much hard work into it.

Lori announced that Bill Aspinwald, W9UGT, wrote on behalf of someone else that they are looking for a handicapped radio amateur who would like to be the inheritor of an HF station. An amateur passed away in the Madison area and was a handicapped amateur and wants to bequeath his station to another handicapped amateur. If anyone knows of a handicapped amateur, we have the address of Bill so you can contact him.

Elections were held for the officers of the Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs, Ltd. The 1994-1995 CWRA Officers are as follows:

President - Mary Eiden, KA9FAS  
Vice President - John Kalina, KA9DJA  
Secretary - Dave Tamres - KB9IIF  
Treasurer - Joe Larson, N9JW  
Activities Manager - Mike Eiden, WD9-JID  
Engineering Managers - Ron Howe, NJ9H and Jim Tuska, N9MEB

Congratulations and good luck to all the new officers! A big thank you to those officers who will not be returning for a job well done!

Respectfully submitted:  
Mary Eiden, KA9FAS  
CWRA Secretary

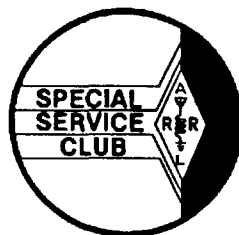
### ATTENDANCE

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Mary Eiden     | KA9FAS |
| Lori Jasper    | KA9ZGD |
| Frank Podach   | N9JQR  |
| Bob Berna      | GUEST  |
| Deb Kroll      | N9EIL  |
| Gene Kroll     | KE9MA  |
| Mike Eiden     | WD9JID |
| Mike Pagel     | KA9LAQ |
| Mike Peters    | W9GHY  |
| Jan Kanieski   | KB9IRH |
| Roger Kanieski | AA9NX  |
| Frank Guth     | W9BCC  |
| Scott Jasper   | NE9U   |
| Joe Omernik    | N9CGV  |
| Art Wysocki    | N9BCA  |
| Joe Larson     | N9JW   |
| John Kalina    | KA9DJA |
| Bob Baird      | W9NN   |
| Wayne Johnson  | K9MIF  |
| Al Mallek      | K9WVM  |

## Mancorad Radio Club

Eric Rugowski, WD9IAB, Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI  
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

### Meeting Minutes September 13, 1995

The meeting was called to order by Club President Barney, N9XER at 7:35 p.m. The minutes for last month's meeting (as printed in "Smoke Signals"), and the treasurer's report, were accepted by club vote.

President Barney then informed the club, that the club's insurance (for its radio equipment), was upgraded in August, to include the new gear used to upgrade the club's repeater.

Also, with regards to the club's T-hunts, it has been decided to try having them on Sunday mornings, after the nets. This will hopefully reduce any schedule conflicts (such as the Packer games, etc.) for potential T-hunters (the winner of the T-hunt on Sunday Sept. 17, was Mark, N9JZZ, so he will be hiding the next transmitter).

Club members who are into packet radio will probably know that the club's BBS is off the air. President Barney informed the club that the BBS was shut down by him on August 25. A general discussion was then held by the club members at the meeting, to determine why, and for how long, the club's BBS will remain shut down. After much discussion, it was decided by club vote, that the club's BBS remain shut down, until issues dealing with its operation are resolved in the future.

The club will be holding its yearly elections during the October meeting. In order to determine who will be candidates for the elections, a nominating committee has been formed. This committee consists of Ken, WB9OBX, Red, N9GHE, and Len, N9QFO. All club members who are interested in running for a club office, are encouraged to get in touch with one of the nominating committee members (note: at least five club officer [this includes board members] spots, are up for grabs, due to incumbents wishing to step down).

In the area of matters of personal interest, there are two items of interest. Recently, Glenn, AA9MT has erected a

new TennaDyne HF log periodic antenna. According to Glenn and John, N9YZ (who helped out with the antenna raising), the antenna is a fantastic antenna (as a user of KLM 2M and 432 log driven yagis for weak signal work, I can personally attest to the high performance characteristics of this type of antenna). Also, congratulations to Bill, WD9ERN, who recently upgraded to a General class license. Way to go, Bill! The meeting ended at 8:10 p.m. Refreshments were served, and club members socialized.

73, CU Down the Log!

Eric Rugowski, WD9IAB  
MANCORAD Secretary

### MEETING ATTENDEES September 13, 1995

|          |        |
|----------|--------|
| Barney   | N9XER  |
| Glen     | AA9MT  |
| Eric     | WD9IAB |
| Theresa  | KB9KXE |
| Gene     | KB9KXF |
| Mary     | KB9GOY |
| Ken      | K9HAG  |
| Sharline |        |
| Terry    | N9PZT  |
| Ken      | WB9OBX |
| Yogi     | WN9Q   |
| John     | NZ9Z   |
| Craig    | N9VIC  |
| Bob      | KB9INK |
| Gary     | KB9KPW |
| Dan      | N9FVZ  |
| Gene     | WB9DQD |
| Vic      | WB9VYO |
| Len      | N9QFO  |
| Bill     | WD9ERN |
| Jan      | N9IQZ  |
| Ron      | ws9x   |
| Steve    | N9PBL  |
| Clancy   | KB9ECW |
| Red      | N9GHE  |
| Carl     | KA9ZTF |
| Paul     | N9QFX  |
| Mike     | AA9AA  |
| Tom      | KB9IUR |
| Ken      | WD9ERO |

## ADVERTISING SALES REPRESENTATIVE NEEDED

Badger State Smoke Signals needs an advertising salesperson. A commission is paid, as are certain expenses. If you are interested, please contact Publisher Ken Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901, or call Ken at (608) 742-3560.

## Thank You!

Thanks to all of the volunteer authors, photographers, cartoonists, and others, who have helped make BSSS what it is. You have our appreciation and our sincere gratitude.



## Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO  
5400 Six Mile Road  
Radne, WI 53402



Our QCWA social gathering of Wisconsin's three Chapters - "55", "162" and "174" - members, their spouses and guests at Robins Restaurant in Oshkosh on the 26th of August was well attended. All enjoyed a family style sit down meal, warm conversations, and the few brief words the spokesperson from each Chapter spoke.

Several recognition awards were presented; two of which went to Chapter 162 members. Herb Ladwig, W9PHJ and Al Algiers, W9HR were recipients of ARRL's "55" years as a license Ham certificate.

The program was provided by Larry (WA9JMO) and Wendy (N9PAC) McCalvy. The group had the opportunity to view the various artifacts, clothing, and pictures, obtained during the McCalvy's past five yearly trips to the former Soviet Union, prior to the meal. The program concluded with slides depicting Russia and several former USSR country citizens as they live, work and play today.

At Monday's business meeting (18 September 1995), a motion was made to offer to host next year's joint QCWA meeting. The motion was tabled pending more details. If the three Chapters agree and we host the event, it will probably be

held again at Robins Restaurant in Oshkosh on the last Saturday in August, 1996.

Anniversary congratulations are in order for several of our members and their spouses: Steve (K9ZL) and Joyce Bell-graph celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 8 August 1995; Herb (W9PHJ) and Eleanor Ladwig, their 53rd anniversary on 2 September 1995; Bob (W0WLN) and Gladys Jensen, their 49th anniversary on 24 September 1995 and Al (W9HR) and Mamie Algiers their 42nd anniversary on 26 September 1995.

Our annual meeting and the election of three Directors will be held on Sunday, 15 October 1995, at the Racine YWCA beginning at 1:30 pm. Post cards with menu selections and a list of nominees will be sent to each member early this month.

Other highlights from last month's meeting include: the Chapter applying for a "club" call, with WA9JMO acting as trustee, and discussion about the Chapter holding its own "Field Day" in 1996.

Our "Sun Shine" committee is still active; if anyone knows any member in the hospital, please let our president, Bill Komistra, W9OVZ, know.

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

## Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.



Steve Hart, KA9OMC, Secretary

E616 810th Avenue

Knapp, WI 54749

**2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output**

Greetings, RCRA sponsors and guests.

With the change of season upon us, many of us are thinking antenna and tower projects. Bill, K9KGB at Menomonie, is looking to put up an all-band vertical, and Chuck, KG9CT, at Spring Valley, needs some tower sections. Give Chuck a call at 715-772-4523 if you know of available tower.

Jim, NX9F, at Menomonie, reports a good ending to another Tin Man Triathlon. This year was the 16th year for this event, which requires over 25 amateurs to provide communications over a large city and rural area. Jim sends thanks to all who helped on this year's Tin Man.

Sorry to report that Don Lund, K0DL, has taken a bad fall and is recovering nicely but is out of circulation for a while. Get wells from everyone here at the repeater, Don.

Gene, KC4VXO, has announced that there will be a second attempt at the fox hunt, now scheduled for September 23 in Menomonie. I hope to have the results for next month's report.

It appears that some of our snow birds are ready to leave their northern nests, and

so it is time to remind everyone that the repeater still must be maintained year-round. Support the system per year per user is a suggested \$15 donation. If you would like to receive a subscription to the Smoke Signals, add \$10 for a total of \$25. ARRL renewals and new memberships are also available through the RCRA and pay a commission to the repeater association if handled by the secretary. Thanks for your continued support.

Please welcome our 1996 repeater supporters, Bob Hulverson, N9XAS, and Louis Forster, WA9CCB, both from Durand.

While our meeting place is at the same place, it now goes by a different name. The Peppermill Restaurant is now the Cornucopia Cafe in the T-Bird Mall. Our next social hour will be October 23 at 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome, and bring some discussion items about ham radio, the family, trips you have taken, or QSOs and schedules you are keeping. See you there.

73.

RCRA Secretary/Treasurer  
Steve Hart, KA9OMC

## Riverland Amateur Radio Club



Tom O'Brien, WB9BJQ  
Secretary

Club mail address: P.O. Box 621  
Onalaska, WI 54650



The September meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7 p.m. on September 5th by President Feroz (WU9N).

Our Secretary, Tom (WB9BJQ), was absent. A motion was made by Bob (N9LZK) and seconded by Karl (KB9EQI) to approve the minutes of the August meeting as printed in the Badger State Smoke Signals. The motion was carried.

Mark (N9UNW) submitted a Treasurer's report. Bob (N9LZK) made a motion to approve the report. Bill (KE9XQ) seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

Programs committee Chairman Kent (W9LZQ) said there would be a presentation after the meeting by Jeff from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources regarding radio tracking of animals, birds and fish.

Swapfest committee Chairman Dick (K0JYB) reported the swapfest was successful, and we have heard several positive comments on the event. A motion was made by Karl (KB9EQI) and seconded by Greg (KA9FOZ) to have a swapfest again next year. The date will be August 24th, 1996 at the Onalaska Omni Center. The motion was carried. Some details were discussed about next year's swapfest, and Dick (K0JYB) was appointed Chairman.

146.970 Repeater committee Chairman Duane (N9PZC) reported that there may be a glitch in relation to IDs. This will be further investigated.

444.475 Repeater committee Chairman Dan (N9PZC) reported that duplexer cavities were ordered and have arrived. The committee is looking for conversation information to convert Motorola Moxy radios to amateur service frequencies. Crystals, a controller, and a power supply still need to be purchased. Hats are still being sold to fund the project.

Sunday Night Net Manager Mike (N9LXI) reported that the net has been having good results. He noted that the availability of the NEWSLINE program has a direct influence on the number of checkins to the net.

Field Day Chairman Bill (KE9XQ) reported that we had a successful event running in a relaxed environment. Bill indicated that he prefers a new chairperson be selected for next year.

Communications trailer committee Chairman Bob (N9LZK) reported that a new location for storage of the trailer is being sought.

SKYWARN / A.R.E.S. Chairman Kent (W9LZQ) reported that the SKYWARN coverage area will be expanded in correlation with a request from the National Weather Service. A training session will be held October 14th, 1995 for those persons who will be working with the weather service staff. Kent also reported that some new equipment has been requisitioned through the American Red Cross for disaster communications use.

Amateur Radio Weekend Chairman Bob (N9LZK) reported that the club is seeking old amateur radio gear for display at the event to be held September 23rd, 1995. Nook (K9EGO) may be working on a repeat balloon experiment in conjunction with the event.

Constitution / Bylaws committee Chairman Walt (AA9AW) announced the following proposed changes to be voted upon at the annual meeting: Article III Section 1.. (Members) a proposal for two classes of membership - Full Members and Associate Members. Only full members would be allowed to vote.

Article III Section 2.. a proposal that the initiation of new members would be voted upon.

Article III Section 6.. a proposal that this section regarding resignation of membership be removed.

Article III Sections 3 & 4.. a proposal to reword the content to reflect that the Treasurer be charged with maintaining a membership roster instead of the Secretary.

A motion was made by Karl (KB9EQI) to extend the meeting. The motion was seconded by Judy (N9LGV). The motion was carried.

Art (W0JDC) reported on the W4ST estate. He stated that there are 3 major items left to be sold. Art also gave a finan-

cial statement to the membership present.

### NEW BUSINESS

Kent (W9LZQ) was selected as chairman of the Nominating Committee. Volunteers are being sought for the Awards Committee.

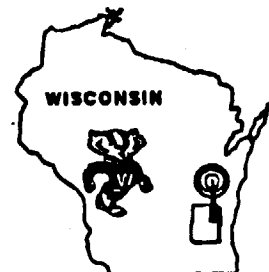
Location suggestions for the club's annual dinner are being sought. The date

for the dinner has been set for Saturday January 20th, 1996.

Bill (KE9XQ) made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried.

There were 24 members present at this meeting.

Report compiled  
by Karl (KB9EQI)



## Washington County Amateur Radio Club

Tom Waldschmidt, N9LZW,  
Secretary  
465 Elder Lane  
Allenton, WI 53002-9799

**Club Repeater: 146.73 MHz**



The September membership meeting of the Washington County Amateur Radio Club was called to order by President Walt Gossfeld, N9LLS, at 7:33 p.m. on September 14, 1995. There were 15 members and one guest attending.

The minutes of the August meeting were read by Secretary Tom, N9LZW. There was a motion by Paul, W9SIZ, seconded by Don, K9GR to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was read by Paul, N9KIK. There was a motion by Keith, KY9P, seconded by Mark, N9UGH, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

### REPEATER COMMITTEE

The Repeater Committee report was given by Chairman Don, K9GR. Don reported that the antenna has been reinstalled and is about 10 feet lower because of the side-mounted installation. The irrigation tubing used for the mast did not meet our original specifications, and therefore, it failed. The antenna is oriented to the east. Initial tuneup has been completed on the repeater. Some problems were observed. A hum, apparently from the power supply, was evident when increasing the power above 20 watts. The crystal and channel element have been returned to the crystal supplier for tuning. The preamp is being looked at. So far we have been unable to get it on frequency.

Also needed for the repeater are PL reeds. The repeater is expected to transmit PL when operational. Plans are to try leaving the repeater open and not to require PL for access.

### OLD BUSINESS

The mailing of a newsletter to all area hams will be made once the club's repeater is operational.

### NEW BUSINESS

Keith provided some copies of a disk containing a dictionary of modem terms. Many club members are experimenting with telephone modems at this time.

Program chairman Paul, N9KIK, announced that Jerry Schmidt from the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Dep't. will give a presentation on reporting situations to the public service agencies following the October meeting.

Dave Barrow, N9UNR, will give a presentation on Milwaukee's Omnifest following the November meeting.

There was a motion by Keith, KY9P, seconded by Gary, W9XT, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Tom, N9LZW, Secretary

Following the meeting, everyone enjoyed an excellent presentation made by Don, K9GR. Don's presentation was on the Internet and World Wide Web. He used a laptop computer and everyone could follow along as Don first explained, and then, "Surfed the Internet".

### Breakfast Schedule

Every Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m.,

Continued on page 13



# Getting Publicity for YOUR Club Events

By Steven B. Padgett, Ph.D., KK4NM  
President, Montgomery Amateur Radio Club (Alabama)  
Associate Professor of Journalism  
Troy State University

Irish playwright Brendan Behan once wrote, "There's no such thing as bad publicity except your own obituary." If that is the case, Amateur Radio clubs should be reviewing their efforts to get publicity. The reason? Ham radio is being mentioned on the obituary pages more often than any other place in newspapers.

Here are some facts to back up that statement. Newspapers should be full of Amateur Radio stories during June. After all, clubs know that publicity translates into Field Day score bonus points. A computer search for the words "Amateur Radio" in more than 50 daily newspapers from across the nation limited to the month of June located the phrase in 84 stories. More than one-quarter of these references were in the obituaries of individual hams. Silent keys were getting more mentions of Amateur Radio in the press than any other subject. Unfortunately, obituaries cannot be classified as excellent forms of publicity.

Field Day came in second in the amount of coverage of Amateur Radio given by the press. Nearly 12 percent of the stories in the sample newspapers covered some aspect of Field Day. This demonstrates that when clubs deliberately seek media attention, they are able to get space in the news media.

Features were a close third in coverage. Nearly 11 percent of the articles in the newspapers were feature stories dealing with an individual and his or her experiences as a ham. These were stories of what an average person would call marvels of communications: DX, satellite contacts, individuals with disabilities who are active hams, CW and young children who are hams are just some examples of feature stories on Amateur Radio found in the newspapers.

Feature stories are excellent public relations vehicles for Amateur Radio since this type of story typically runs longer than a normal news story giving the reader more information about the topic. Plus, feature stories use a different writing style from hard-news that many people feel is easier to read.

The remaining stories were about Amateur Radio and public service (4 percent), VE exams (2.4 percent), government actions (5 percent), TVI problems (2.4 percent), antenna/zoning problems (5 percent), emergency communications (2.4 percent) and general Amateur Radio club announcements. Less than 8 percent of the stories in this sample could be classified as delivering a negative image of Amateur Radio to the reader.

## What To Do

Having identified that the public relations efforts of most clubs could be improved, what are some of the practical things that all clubs could do to improve their chances of getting media coverage?

First, clubs should appoint someone to be responsible for the group's public relations and publicity efforts. This person's job would be to keep the media informed when interesting or newsworthy events happen in the club or in Amateur Radio. Care should be taken to find someone for this job with a talent for writing interesting and accurate stories. After all, the publicity officer cannot simply call an editor or reporter saying the club's message is important and expect him or her to create an interesting angle to the story. Editors and reporters do not have the time nor the desire to attempt this feat. The club's publicity officer will have to write copy good enough to catch the editor's interest.

Don't assume that a club member working for the media is the only choice for publicity officer. He or she may have an employment contact that prohibits this type activity. Editors are known to keep files full of "contact" names. Help your local editors and broadcast news producers

out by sending them a labeled file folder each year with some information in it about the club and Amateur Radio plus the names and telephone numbers of individuals to contact for specific types of information. For example, news media people appreciate having contacts for weather watchers, satellite communicators, emergency net controllers or participants, technology gurus, space shuttle communicators, club officers and similar individuals who may be able to give a "local" twist on a news story. Background information about Amateur Radio for this folder may be easily obtained from ARRL. Chances are good that the media people will not throw out this folder.

By the way, don't overlook radio stations and weekly newspapers when sending materials to the media. These outlets typically have smaller staffs than the dailies and TV stations and are frequently more willing to publish well-written and timely materials delivered to them. Your publicity efforts may become more successful by simply expanding your mailing/fax list.

Make sure that the club name, address, the words "not-for-profit" and the name and phone number of an individual to contact for additional information appear on the news release. These items may help sway an editor to read the first line or two of your copy. Also, place a release date at the top of the page. Editors tend to look with skepticism on releases marked with, "FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE" instead of a real date. Of course, all press releases should be typed doubled-spaced and only one side of the paper. Use short paragraphs and short sentences in your text. Editors seem to like this style of writing.

The first two lines of your press release are, without a doubt, the most important in the entire story. Editors frequently decide if the release should be thrown away after reading the first line or two. You need to capture the attention and interest of editors and producers in these first sentences. A strong first few sentences will improve the chances of your material being publicized.

Make the most of quotes in your press release. Editors and producers love quotes from people who are interesting and articulate. This may mean using someone other than the club president or the chairman of the board as the spokesperson. Strong quotes will make your release more interesting than one without quotes.

All club members should keep an eye on the news and should inform the publicity officer when a story with an Amateur Radio connection is spotted. This will allow the publicity officer to contact the media to attempt to "localize" the story. You will find that the news media loves to put a local touch on any story it can.

It is important that the publicity officer be the media contact person. Reporters would not appreciate receiving 140 calls from the 140 members of your club concerning a single story idea.

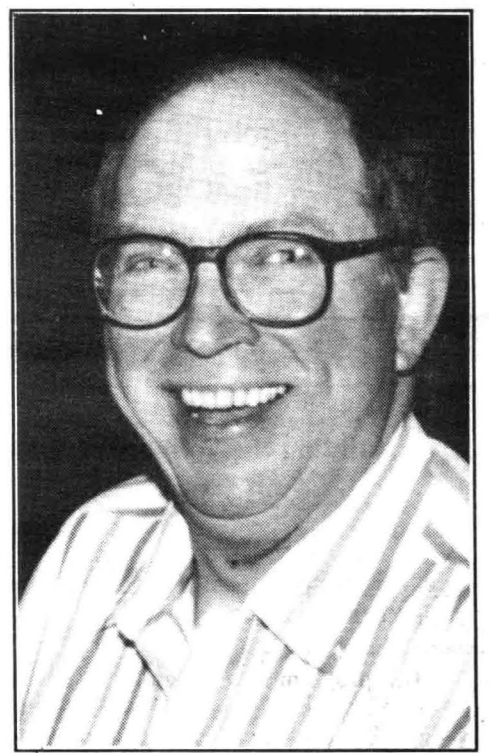
Above all, be honest with the media. You don't have to volunteer negative information but never mislead a reporter. If you do not know, tell the reporter and offer to investigate and get back with him or her later. Don't make up fact or "bend" the truth. Reporters have long memories when they have been duped and will be hesitant to use any information supplied in the future by someone they classify as unreliable.

Reporters want to be informed and not manipulated. Reporters want facts and not emotional outbursts. Your club can get more coverage than the silent keys are currently receiving by systematically following some simple steps in becoming a contact for the mass media.

- Field Forum, October 1994  
Published by the ARRL

## Wisconsin SEC Addresses Disaster Conference

John Leekley, WB9SMM, Milwaukee, Wisconsin's ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator, addressed Emergency Government Directors and other personnel at the annual Disaster Preparedness Conference in Madison in August. He briefed the conference attendees on what and how the Amateur Radio Emergency Service can do to assist agencies during and after disasters. We have a copy of his address, but do not have space to print it, even though it was short and very much to the point. That's smiling John in the photo at right.



## FCC Issued Call Sign Update

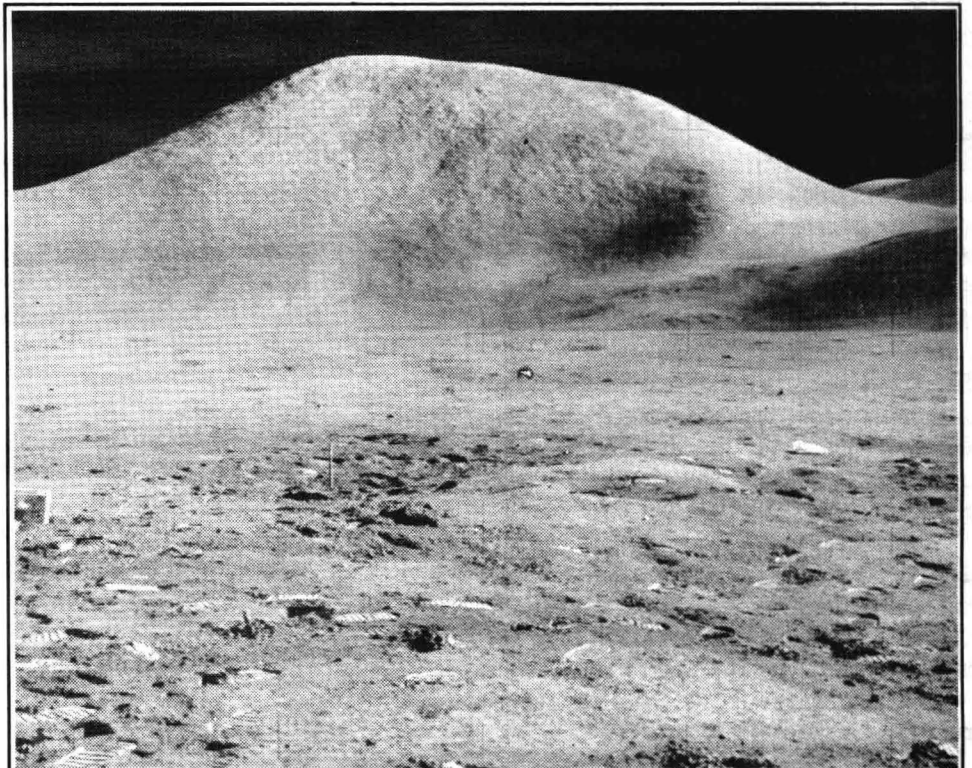
The following is a list of the FCC's most recently issued call signs as of September 1.

| District    | Group A<br>Extra | Group B<br>Advanced | Group C<br>Tech/Gen | Group D<br>Novice |
|-------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 0           | AA0ZA            | KG0YW               | ++                  | KB0TVP            |
| 1           | AA1OJ            | KE1CX               | N1VTZ               | KB1BTW            |
| 2           | AA2YK            | KG2DW               | ++                  | KB2VRO            |
| 3           | AA3MK            | KE3US               | N3WAX               | KB3BKX            |
| 4           | AE4LW            | KT4CY               | ++                  | KF4DBD            |
| 5           | AC5EQ            | KK5SM               | ++                  | KC5QOW            |
| 6           | AC6PM            | KO6ZL               | ++                  | KE6YHD            |
| 7           | AB7ML            | KJ7QY               | ++                  | KC7MYR            |
| 8           | AA8UQ            | KG8TG               | ++                  | KC8AXZ            |
| 9           | AA9QB            | KG9DX               | ++                  | KB9LLB            |
| N. Mariana  | KH0S             | AH0AW               | KH0ED               | WH0ABC            |
| Guam        | WH2Q             | AH2DA               | KH2QQ               | WH2ANN            |
| Johnston    | AH3D             | AH3AD               | KH3AG               | WH3AAG            |
| Midway      | ++               | AH4AA               | KH4AG               | WH4AAH            |
| Hawaii      | ++               | AH6OE               | ++                  | WH6CYA            |
| Kure        | ++               | ++                  | KH7AA               | ++                |
| Amer. Samoa | AH8O             | AH8AH               | KH8CJ               | WH8ABE            |
| Wake        | AH9C             | AH9AD               | KH9AE               | WH9AAI            |
| Alaska      | ++               | AL7QF               | ++                  | WL7COU            |
| Virgin      | WP2U             | KP2CH               | NP2IK               | WP2AIA            |
| Puerto Rico | ++               | KP4ZY               | ++                  | WP4NBC            |

++ All call signs in this group have been issued in this area.

- ARRL Bulletin ARLB088, 9/25/95

## WHERE NO MAN HAS BEEN SINCE 1972



We gave "old Sol" a lot of space in this issue, so we thought we'd go lunar, too. This photo of a highland area on the moon was taken during an EVA (extra-vehicular activity) on the Apollo 15 lunar landing mission. Those footprints are still there. - NASA photo

## Washington County Amateur Radio Club

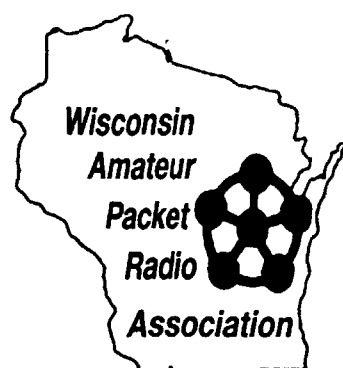
Continued from page 12

Washington County ARC members get together for breakfast at varying locations.

Guests are always welcome. Here is the schedule for the month of October:

Sat. 10/07/95 9:00 a.m. Parkside Cafe in Jackson  
Sat. 10/14/95 9:00 a.m. Slinger Inn in Slinger  
Sat. 10/21/95 9:00 a.m. Fay's Restaurant in West Bend  
Sat. 10/28/95 9:00 a.m. Jimmy's Restaurant in Jackson □





# THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association (WAPR)

Bob Gedemer, KA9JAC

609 Wilson Street, Neenah, WI 54956

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor, 1250 Main Street, Green Bay, WI 54302

## Building the Wisconsin Network

By Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

The days are getting shorter, cooler, and crisper. Folks are looking toward winter with the strange combination of sorrow and relief that we in Wisconsin are all too familiar with. We reflect upon the passing of summer, and prepare to finish our station upgrades and maintenance before the really bad stuff socks us in for the winter. It also is a good time to think about what we will do this winter in the packet community with our "snow days". Perhaps we can use them to plan out how we can build the Wisconsin Network to overcome it's weaknesses, and prepare us for the future.

And that is what the majority of space on this page is being devoted to this month. We had to shorten the series "Using the Wisconsin Network" this month, but only for this month. The amount of space we can have available forces me to do this. I still tried to find some useful information to present to the good folks who have been following and using this series. So, I settled on a few questions that have been asked of me in the past. Hope that they are of some help. So, we compromise on space, and use some space to talk about some of the important issues we face in the coming months.

Let's talk about the role of WAPR in Network Development. WAPR's role in all of this is to assist and coordinate the continued development of the network. WAPR looks at what is already in place, listens to member input, and coordinates development in an organized manner. WAPR right now is looking toward the future of Data communications and a lot of folks feel that we are at a crossroads of sorts.

Look at the tremendous expansion in the internet, for example. What will we do to complement it or interface with it in the amateur packet radio system?

A lot of the network has changed drastically in a year's time. Still, there is much to explore, much to improve, and a lot we can add. We need to explore Microwave links, Data Regeneration repeaters, Internet gateways, and TCP/IP routing that allows for roaming. Not to mention the fact that packet radio itself is growing, and we will see an appreciable increase in network usage as the medium grows.

So, now that we have an idea of what we should be doing, how do we start? Simply by finding out where we are. You probably have noticed that there are no current listings for Wisconsin Packet in the ARRL repeater directory. This is because all the information that WAPR has is hopelessly outdated. Our WAPR frequency coordinator, Steve KE9LZ, needs this information so that he knows what is in place and what can be coordinated from here. Once he (and the rest of WAPR) knows what is in place, we can start to assess our shortcomings, and coordinate additional backbone and LAN frequencies. We can also plan a strategy to deal with the coming changes in the world of data communications.

There are two ways that we can get the ball rolling. First, if you have a Network Node, BBS, or other public packet facility, please fill out and return the frequency coordination form to Steve. This alone will go a long way toward updating the database he maintains and sends to the ARRL for the repeater directory.

Secondly, you can participate in the new discussion group that we are starting on the BBS network and on the Internet. The groups will have identical content, and are to be strictly devoted to discussing packet radio network development. These groups will be run in the best tradition of amateur radio. They are not intended to be a help net for BBS operators, there are other discussion groups for that. They will attempt to help folks who are having trouble getting their part of the network working. This will help open up the lines of communication

amongst network node and BBS operators, and help us work in a concerted manner. After all, WAPR only meets 4 times a year, this ongoing discussion group will allow us to fill in the gaps.

The packet radio part of the discussion group will appear as messages to WISNET@RTWIS. The internet side of the group is wi\_packet@relay.wisc.edu. Use the internet side if you have trouble getting messages in and out of your part of the state. To subscribe to the Internet side, send a message to listserver@relay.wisc.edu. Leave the subject blank, and in the body of the message, type: subscribe wi\_packet <your name> Use your real name, not your Internet address or any "screen name". Of course, don't put the <> brackets in there.

Please help our efforts to get the network meet the future of digital radio communications. Let's try to get the Wisconsin Network to reflect our desire to get into the digital radio future. Take the first step by filling out the form and sending it off to Steve. It should only take a few minutes to fill out, and then get involved in the discussion group. Send a message to the group letting everyone know what you are up to.

Expect to see progress reports in the next issue of The Wisconsin Packeteer. Until then, 73.

Using the Wisconsin Network - Part 8  
By Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

Last month we talked about using a variation of the "Nodes" command in order to determine the route to another node. We talked about "segmenting" the packet circuit so that the weakest link in the radio path is made stronger. This makes the overall circuit stronger, and faster. This month we will take a little time to answer a few of the most frequently asked questions about travelling the network. Names and Node aliases have been changed to protect the innocent and guilty!

Q) We have a network node called "WIBRAT" here in Bratsville, and a friend of mine operates a Kantronics node in his TNC called "WISAUS". I can connect to the KA-Node WISAUS from my station, and can connect to the "WIBRAT" node from his KA-Node. However, I cannot connect to WISAUS from WIBRAT. Neither can anyone else, so I know it is not my station. The WIBRAT node won't even try, it just says "Invalid Call".

A) This is a peculiar situation, but easily explained. You see, the WIBRAT node is a network node, and only recognizes other networked nodes as being able to use aliases. KA-Nodes, even if they have an alias, are not networked nodes. They do not know how to speak the same language. There is hope, however. If your KA-Node operator changes the call of the KA-Node to his standard call-sign with a different SSID, you will be able to make a connection. Most KA-Nodes are factory set to have the node as -7. For example, if I had a Kantronics TNC and I elected to run a KA-Node, it would be KB9ALN-7. I suggest that people stick with the default here. It brings uniformity. While you can't make a network out of KA-Nodes, they can be a help in remote areas that do not have a convenient network node.

Q) What is an X-1J4? We recently had a change in our local node, and now the H command does not give me the "Heard" list.

A) TheNet X-1J4 is a slightly different version of the familiar "TheNet" nodes you are used to. Why have people changed? Because it offers a whole lot more features and capabilities, and a whole lot more network control. By the way, your heard list is still there. It is now the "M" command (or MHeard). It is a better heard list, that tells you how long ago a station was heard. The "H" command, if you haven't noticed, gives a "Help" listing. In future editions of this series, we will explore TheNet X-1J and newer nodes and modes in depth.

Q) When I connect to my friend in Beavisville, about 100 miles away, it seems to take forever to get

my packets through. Funny thing is, it shows that I am connected to him fairly quickly. Why does this happen?

A) This is indeed peculiar, but easily explained. You have a weak link somewhere in your circuit. The reason why you seem to be connected right away is because a connect request is a very short packet. Remember, short packets go through the network much faster than long ones. Try "Segmenting" the circuit, and see if that helps. See part 7 for info on this.

That is about all we have space for this month. Next month we will continue to explore more node commands while we travel the Wisconsin Network. Until then, 73.

## The Pentium Bug Jokes!

From: KD4UER@K4KEP.#LUX.SC.USA.NA  
To : ALL@USA

Q&A: THE PENTIUM FDIV BUG

Q: How many Pentium designers does it take to screw in a light bulb?

A: 1.99104274017, but that's close enough for non-technical people.

Q: What do you get when you cross a Pentium PC with a research grant?

A: A mad scientist.

Q: What's another name for the "Intel Inside" sticker they put on Pentiums?

A: The warning label.

Q: What do you call a series of FDIV instructions on a Pentium?

A: Successive approximations.

Q: Complete the following word analogy: Add is to Subtract as Multiply is to:

- 1) Divide
- 2) ROUND
- 3) RANDOM
- 4) On a Pentium, all of the above

A: Number 4.

Q: What algorithm did Intel use in the Pentium's floating point divider?

A: "Life is like a box of chocolates." (Source: F. Gump of Intel)

Q: Why didn't Intel call the Pentium the 586?

A: Because they added 486 and 100 on the first Pentium and got 585.991983605.

Q: According to Intel, the Pentium conforms to the IEEE standards 754 and 854 for floating point arithmetic. If you fly in aircraft designed using a Pentium, what is the correct pronunciation of "IEEE"?

A: Aaaaaaaiiiiiiiiiieeeeeeeeeee!

## TOP TEN NEW INTEL SLOGANS FOR THE PENTIUM

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 9.9919973251 | It's a FLAW, Dammit, not a Bug                  |
| 8.9919163362 | It's Close Enough, We Say So                    |
| 7.9919414610 | Nearly 300 Correct Opcodes                      |
| 6.9919831538 | You Don't Need to Know What's Inside            |
| 5.9919835137 | Redefining the PC -- and Mathematics As Well    |
| 4.9919919021 | We Fixed It, Really                             |
| 3.9918245917 | Division Considered Harmful                     |
| 2.9911523619 | Why Do You Think They Call It *Floating* Point? |
| 1.9919103517 | We're Looking for a Few Good Flaws              |
| 0.9919919918 | The Errata Inside                               |

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT??

Here's hoping you got your replacement! 73



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Congressman, what advice can you give a young man entering politics?

"Grow a mustache"

"Why?"

"So they can't read your lips"

There's a ham so afraid of Christmas parties that he leaves town in mid-December and doesn't return until after New Year's He's what we call a Noel Coward.

Quips. Man coming home from work to wife. You were right. I was silly to worry about some "boy wonder" taking over my job. The boss's daughter got it.

## Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call) • K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)



Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary

450 West 2nd Street • Reedsburg, WI 53959



The September 14, 1995 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Bob Sauvan, WT9Q.

The minutes of the last meeting, as published in the BSSS, were accepted. Jim Decker, WB9UQT gave the financial report.

OLD BUSINESS: Liberty Flag in Reedsburg was contacted regarding a banner. The price quoted was considered high by the members present and the committee will continue to look for other places. Where to meet in '96 was discussed as there is some doubt whether the civic center will be available next year.

NEW BUSINESS: Information was received regarding a ham fest in Minneapolis which included one free ticket, which went to George Gabay, N9QQR. Pete Sweeney, WD9JIB gave the members an update on his work with Tim Sieve, Sauk County emergency government. Election was held for club officers Steve Schulze, N9UDO was elected President, Bill Hommel, KA9QFJ vice president, Raymond Matlosz, N9MLZ secretary and Bill Decker, WB9UQT treasurer.

Buck night winner was KB9CSW, who not only was present to win the three bucks, but donated same back to the club for refreshments for next year's field day. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

### AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATION

10 a.m. to Noon OCTOBER 7, 1995 \*\* BARABOO PUBLIC LIBRARY

\*\*\*\*\*

The next meeting will be held Tuesday October 17, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. at the Baraboo Civic Center.

Sincerely,

Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary

The following members and guest were present:

|                  |        |            |
|------------------|--------|------------|
| Robert Sauvan    | WT9Q   | Sauk City  |
| Bill Hommel      | KA9QFJ | Baraboo    |
| Steve Schulze    | N9UDO  | Baraboo    |
| Art Kleefisch    | W9WSS  | Baraboo    |
| Raymond Matlosz  | N9MLZ  | Reedsburg  |
| Wayne A. Burgess | N9UDX  | Madison    |
| Peter Sweeney    | WD9JIB | Reedsburg  |
| Thomas Harrison  | N9PQJ  | Reedsburg  |
| George Gabay     | N9QQR  | New Lisbon |
| Jim Decker       | WB9UQT | Baraboo    |
| Bob Baker        | KB9LAZ | LaValle    |
| Dave Spearing    | KB9CSW | Portage    |

### APPLICATION FOR PACKET FREQUENCY COORDINATION

INDIVIDUAL/CLUB NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME BBS: \_\_\_\_\_

INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TECHNICAL DATA \_\_\_\_\_

FREQUENCY REQUESTED: \_\_\_\_\_

NEAREST TOWN OR CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

EXACT LOCATION: Latitude \_\_\_\_ deg \_\_\_\_ min Longitude \_\_\_\_ deg \_\_\_\_ min

ANTENNA HEIGHT: TO TIP \_\_\_\_ ft. GROUND ELEVATION: \_\_\_\_ ft. amsl

ANTENNA GAIN: \_\_\_\_ db. ( ) OMNIDIRECTIONAL

( ) DIRECTIONAL - WHICH DIRECTION: \_\_\_\_\_

TRANSMITTER POWER OUTPUT: \_\_\_\_ watts E.R.P.: \_\_\_\_ watts

INTENDED RADIUS OF COVERAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF APPLICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) NETNODE ( ) BBS ( ) TCPIP \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS

( ) DX CLUSTER ( ) AREA LAN ( ) BACKBONE

( ) OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

BAUD RATE: \_\_\_\_\_ STATION CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ STATION ALIAS: \_\_\_\_\_

DISCRIPTION OF STATION: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND TO: Steve McDonough (KE9LZ) AX25: KE9LZ@KB9ALN.#GRB.USA.NA

445 S. ST Bernard Drive E-MAIL: ke9lz@netnet.net

De Pere, WI 54115 Home Phone: (414)336-9441

### THE NOVICE PRAYER

by Doug Kleemann, KA9LWN(1981)

Our Elmer who art in the radio shack,  
Hallowed be thy Linear.  
Thy pink slip come, thee will be done,  
With the FCC as it is in Washington.  
Give us this day, our daily band opening,  
And forgive us our TVI,  
As we forgive those who CQ atop us.  
Lead us not to forget our callsigns,  
And deliver us from QR Mary.  
For thine is the Alpha.  
And the power,  
And the rare DX contacts.  
Forever until I upgrade.  
Amen.

from the May '93 West Allis RAC "HAMTRIX" --  
Lester A. Peterson, W9YCV, Editor. via ARNS

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Dan Vanevenhoven, N9LVS  
2410 E. Newberry Ct.  
Appleton, WI 54915  
414-739-5101

EXAM INFO:  
Larry Siebers, KD9IA  
414-788-3823

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For more information, call:  
Glenn, AA9MT: 414-684-7096  
Red, N9GHE: 414-684-9097 (nights)  
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11448 N. Laguna Drive • Mequon, WI 53092

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**SWAPFEST**

**Sunday, October 15, 1995**

Waukesha County Expo Center  
Info: KMRA Swapfest S46 W32264 Highview Rd.  
Waukesha, WI 53188-9276

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

**AUCTION**

**February 27, 1996 • 7:00 p.m.**

American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street  
Eau Claire, WI  
CONTACT:

Steve Hart, KA9OMC 715-665-2374  
E616 810th Ave. Knapp, WI 54749

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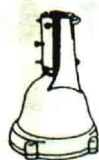
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